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HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ILLINOIS

EDITED BY

NEWTON BATEMAN, LL. D. PAUL SELBY, A. M.



AND HISTORY OF

CASS COUNTY

EDITED BY

CHARLES Æ. MARTIN

VOLUME II.

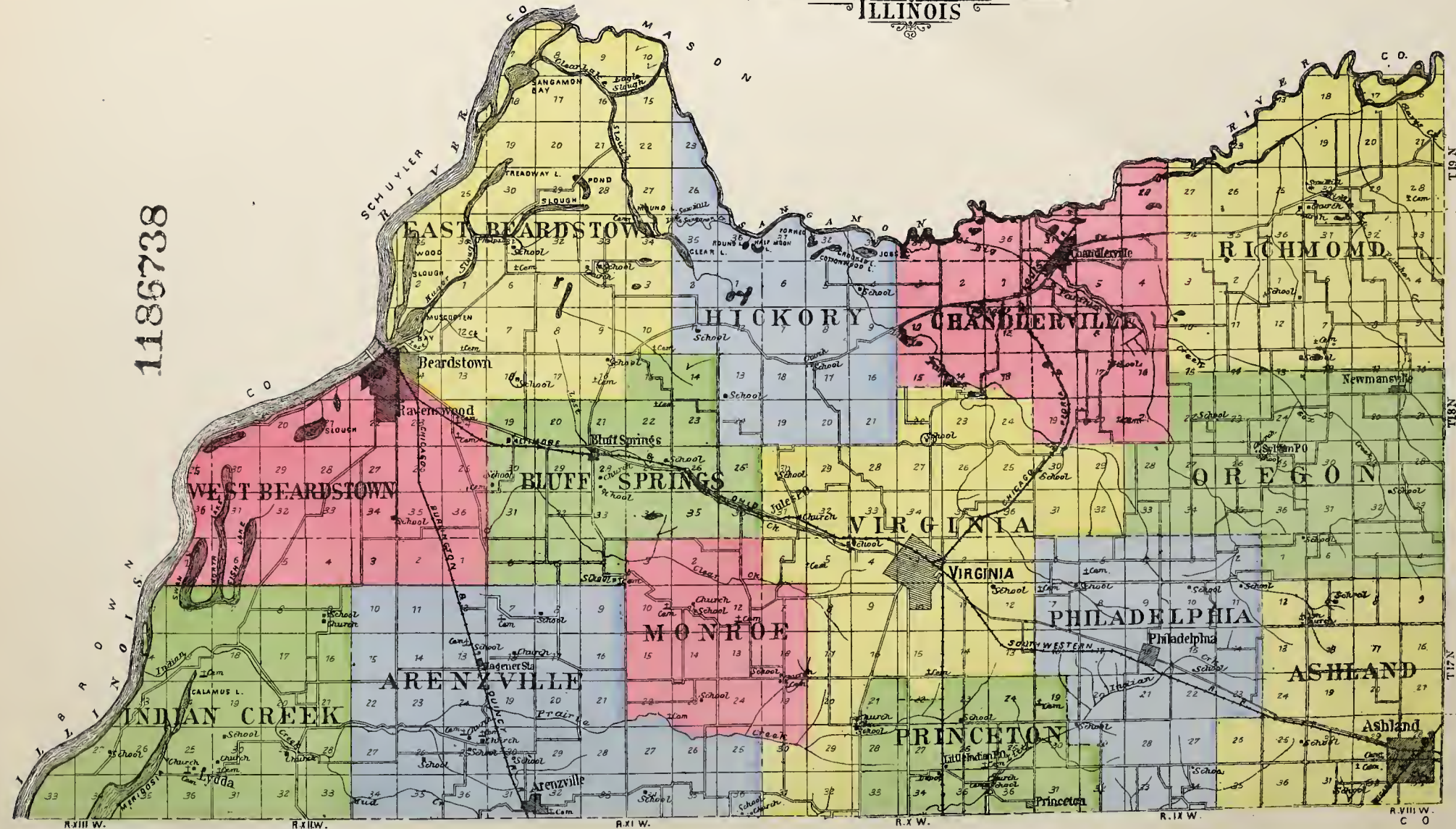
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OUTLINE MAP OF CASS COUNTY ILLINOIS



PREFACE

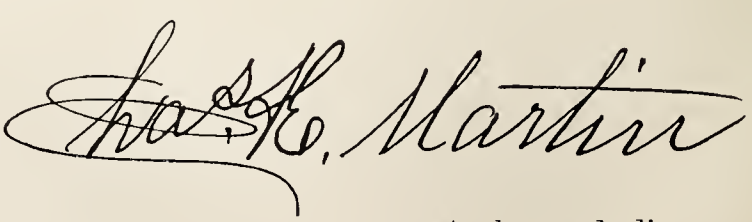
Upon assuming the preparation of a history of Cass county, an editorial letter was issued to the citizens setting forth the purpose of the undertaking, and requesting the cooperation of the people in making the history one that would be of a standard to reflect credit upon us as a county and a progressive people. It was further suggested that history though written in a manner deeply interesting, yet is valuable only as it faithfully and truthfully portrays events and records facts. With these thoughts and principles in mind, and with the hope of adequate cooperation, the work was begun. It did not take long to convince the writer that the labors and burdens of preparing such a work for publication were fully equal to the pleasures. It was found, upon investigation, that much of the so-called history of the county was mere tradition, and the reader may be disappointed in not finding some things in the following pages which have passed current for history in the past. An earnest, conscientious effort has been made, by original research, to learn and record the facts from every attainable source. Whether or not the narrative has been made interesting must be left to the judgment of the reader, but the correctness of the data may safely be relied upon. There are doubtless some errors, such as unavoidably creep into the best of historical writings, but we trust in this work they have been reduced to the minimum.

The method adopted in presenting the historical matter is topical rather than chronological, each topic forming a chapter and a substantially complete history of the particular subject named in the heading, yet it is to a great extent chronological in its sequences. Opening new settlements, building school houses and churches, erecting manufactories, laying out highways, constructing railroads, establishing newspapers, etc., and the formation of local governments in connection with state and national government, are all contemporaneous, and the story of each is naturally interwoven. In writing of each separately references will naturally be made to the others which may seem to be repetitions, but it is not really so; it is only where it seemed necessary to enable the reader to associate the incidents of one subject with those of another that references thereto have again been introduced. It is apprehended the reader will find no fault with that. The basic facts, when the facts are once discovered, must necessarily be

the foundation of all histories of a given community. So the basic facts (previously known) in this history are the same as found in any former histories or historical writings of the county. The reader will therefore expect to find such facts as are deemed of sufficient importance and of such general interest as to merit a place in history, as well as such newly discovered facts as diligent search has brought to light. The author of a history is not expected to invent new facts and incidents; he is the author of the narrative, editing and weaving therein the story of the facts which he has gathered from various reliable sources. The editor and author is also limited to the extent of the publication for which he is preparing the narrative of events. There is wide latitude for honest and intelligent difference of opinion as to the importance of almost any event, and very few, if any, would agree upon details; the editor and author has therefore assumed the responsibility for selection and discrimination, but with the assurance to the patrons of the work that no effort has been spared to obtain and include within the various chapters a general statement of the important facts pertaining to the particular subject. Full acknowledgment has been accorded to the writings of others wherever quotations have been made, and especial acknowledgment is here made, with thanks, for the courtesies extended the author by the various officials who permitted the examination of records in their possession, and to the various newspapers of the county, the secretaries of the Illinois State Historical Society, and to the many others who have kindly assisted in gathering facts upon which to base the story of Cass County and its wonderful development and progress in its seventy-eight years of existence.

The biographical division of the work, as well as the business management of the publication, has been entirely in charge of the publishers, and much credit is due them for the pecuniary outlay they have borne, also for the conscientious and painstaking care manifested by them in every department of the work. It is hoped the Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Cass County will prove of great value and interest to its readers, and, by condoning the faults and errors of the editor of the county history, they will find the promises made in the prospectus fully redeemed.

Virginia, Ill., October, 1915.



Author and editor.

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Thos. H. Martin

HISTORY OF CASS COUNTY

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.

GEOGRAPHY—GEOLOGY—NATURAL VEGETATION—FORESTS AND PRAIRIES—PICTURESQUE SCENERY—WATER COURSES—SANGAMON COUNTY—ORIGIN OF NAME—SANGAMON RIVER—EARLY ATTEMPTS AT NAVIGATION.

GEOGRAPHY.

Cass County is not one of the large counties of Illinois, nor yet is it one of the smallest. Its greatest extent is from east to west and is thirty-one miles long on the southern border, or southern tier of townships. Its greatest width is seventeen miles, from north to south. It comprises 390 square miles, or about 250,000 acres. Its northern boundary line is the Sangamon River, which crosses a middle line of range 8, west, which is the eastern boundary of the county, in section 16, township 19, north, range 8, west. After running in a very crooked, meandering way, the river empties its waters into the Illinois River in section 8, township 19, range 12, west. From that point on to the southwest, the Illinois River forms the western boundary of Cass County to the south line of township 17, north, range 10, west. These two rivers give to Cass County a river frontage of about forty-five miles.

Cass County prairie lands and practically all timber or "barren" lands lie about 630 feet above the ocean level, forty-five feet above the level of Lake Michigan; and 340 feet above low water at Cairo, at the mouth of the Ohio River.

As to soil, the following is, with some slight changes to conform to later discoveries, taken from the compilation of facts concerning the geological formation of Cass County, by J. Henry Shaw: "The soil of this county is the same as that in the whole of this portion of the state, a dark-colored loam with a lighter colored clay sub-soil. On the ridges and bluffs which skirt the streams, we find this sub-soil everywhere, except upon the Loess formation, exposed at the surface of the ground, and generally bearing a heavy growth of timber. On the bottom land the soil is an alluvial arenaceous loam, and excepting in localities where the sand too greatly predominates, is an excellent productive soil."

GEOLOGY.

The geological formations in this county consist of the Quaternay deposits, the Loess and Drift, and the Coal Measures, which alone of the older formations underlie the surface beds of clay, gravel, etc. The Loess forms the bluffs along the Illinois and Sangamon bottoms. Its general features here are the same as in many river counties, and it forms the same bold bluffs that are seen in other localities along the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. The material here is an ash or buff-colored marly sand, containing fresh water shells of existing species. The thickness of the formation is considerable, some 60 or 70 feet immediately at the bluffs, but it rapidly thins out in the back country, in many places disappearing entirely within a very short distance. It appears to extend further inland along the Sangamon Valley bluffs north of Virginia, and several good sections of this deposit may be seen in the cuts made for the road bed on the right of way of the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville Railroad (now the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis Railroad) between Virginia and Chandlerville. Deposits of Drift consist of brown, yellow and blue clay, with boulders, while sand and gravel seams are of frequent

occurrence amid the mass. The thickness can hardly be estimated, but from such experiments as have been made, it appears to be between 40 and 100 feet.

Coal Measures as far as developed, comprise a thickness of over 300 feet of the middle and lower portion of the series, which contains two or three seams of coal of workable thickness. The principal exposures, commencing with the lowest, are as follows:

In the southwest part of section 21, township 18, range 11, at the edge of the bluffs along the Illinois Valley, and also along the bluffs of the Sangamon Valley in sections 10 and 11, township 18, north, range 11, west, are old coal mines, and one new one now in operation, but not producing a great amount of coal. It probably would do better if more attention were given to it. These are reported to have the following sections: 1, soil (Loess), 15 feet; 2, brownish sandstone containing many vegetable impressions, 13 feet; 3, limestone (Blue Rock), 2 feet; 4, clay shale (Soapstone), 12 feet; 5, coal (No. 1 of Illinois River section), 3 feet; 6, fire clay, very hard, 4 feet. No. 2 of this section crops out along the bluff road at the edge of the bluffs and a few rods further west, in ledges several feet in vertical exposure. It is soft micaceous sandstone, of a light or whitish brown color. About a quarter of a mile further north the coal seam No. 4 is reached by digging into the foot of the bluff and worked by stripping. Above the north line of section 21, the bluffs for about two miles, are mostly of Loess, and it is necessary to follow up the side ravines in order to see the exposure of rock, and following up the various ravines along the Sangamon Valley bluffs, the investigator will find much the same condition of rock, sand and soil, Drift and shale, and, occasionally, some black slate. A shallow coal shaft in the southeast quarter of section 6, township 18, range 9, near Panther Creek, affords the following sections: No. 1, surface soil, 4 feet; 2, gravel (Blue Bind), 2 feet; 3, black slate, 2 feet; 4, clay shale (Soapstone), 13 feet; coal, 2 feet, 6 inches; fire clay, passing downward into nodular limestone, 2 feet; 7, clay penetrated, 2 feet.

All parts of Cass County appear to be underlaid by coal measures which here include the horizon of four or five different seams of coal. It seems highly probable that there is no portion of Cass County outside of the river bottom lands that is not underlaid with at least one coal bed of workable thickness.

A coal shaft was sunk at Virginia in 1882 by the Virginia Coal & Water Company and was worked with more or less success for a number of years and then abandoned. The coal mined was of a good quality, and was used mostly by local consumers. A mine was also operated at Ashland for a number of years until it was no longer profitable, by reason of competition by other mines in central Illinois with better facilities for shipping. What has been said of the geological formation gives the reader a general idea of the surface conditions of Cass County, and its possibilities for mining.

NATURAL VEGETATION.

When the early settlers arrived in Cass County, they found the southeast half largely prairie, covered with tall, coarse grass, with heavy roots extending deep into the ground. Often the grass grew so high that before the wild fires started and consumed it, a man on horseback could scarcely be seen within it; and traveling through it was very difficult, even on horseback, and almost impossible with a team and wagon. The movers and settlers kept close to the path that was once broken. Wonder is sometimes expressed by those who have seen these same prairies under cultivation, with deep rustling fields of corn and golden grain, or in meadow and pasture of tame grasses, why the early settlers passed by such valuable lands and made their homes in the edge of the timber on much inferior soil. The reason is very apparent to those who know the conditions that confronted the pioneer. It was absolutely necessary to have firewood, and some kind of material with which to construct houses. Many pioneers came from Kentucky, Tennessee and old Virginia, where they had lived in log cabins, and knew how to construct them. In the timber along the creeks they found abundant tall, straight trees which they knew could be readily felled, hewed and shaped into logs for the walls of their cabins, and the task of preparing a field for first crops was much less formidable in the timber along the edges of the prairies. On account of the forest fires, the timber was kept pretty clear of underbrush and smaller trees, or saplings as they are called, leaving only the larger trees and they were not very close together. A corn field was often prepared by

simply "girdling" the larger trees, this being done by cutting a band around the tree out of its bark, near the ground, thus causing the tree to die. It then bore no leaves to shade the ground, and its roots drew no sustenance from the soil. The farmer could plow close up around the tree with almost as little difficulty as he could around a stump.

Then again the timber settlers had material in hand for fencing their fields and lots. Many of the first fences were, however, but brush fences, constructed by piling the brush and smaller limbs cut from the fallen trees in such a way as to form a barrier to keep the stock from wandering away. These fences answered the purpose for which they were made for several years better than might be supposed. There was also in the timber, protection for the stock and for the people from the fierce winds and storms of winter, which they could not have withstood in the open prairies. The prairies did not present a very inviting prospect for agriculture in those days, even when they were burned off by fires, as there was revealed a wide stretch of uneven, boggy and sometimes miry land that had every appearance of requiring years of laborious toil to put it in condition to yield passable crops of the cereals with which the early settler was acquainted. Indeed they were more than half right about it. It has required time, labor and ingenuity to work the miracle. Where once was a houseless, roadless, even pathless wilderness, the habitude of howling, roaring wild animals, and a fiercer, wilder, savage human element, there is now a veritable Garden of Eden.

FORESTS AND PRAIRIES.

A large portion of the surface of Cass County consists of prairie; and the county also has a large extent of bottom lands in the valleys of the Sangamon and Illinois rivers. The Sangamon Valley varies in width from two to eight miles, its widest portion being about where the bluff line turns south, forming the eastern highland border of the Illinois Valley, in section 9, township 18, range 12. The Illinois Valley in Cass County is of wider extent than the Sangamon, but does not have an equal proportion of as valuable, fertile soil, on account of a number of sand ridges extending through parts of it. Yet this Illinois bottom, if it were not for the lakes and sloughs that cover a portion of it, would be as fertile a region as could be found anywhere in the State of Illinois.

The prairie lands are now broken and placed under cultivation, and are perhaps as fertile as is known in any agricultural district. They extend from the south line of the county northward east of the village of Arenzville; their northwestern border being nearly a diagonal line to the northeast corner of the county. The soil is of a rich, dark color, having the general characteristics of the other prairie soil in Illinois. Between the prairies and the Illinois and Sangamon valleys are the timbered lands, beginning at the edge of the prairies and extending to within a short distance of the valleys where they end in high and sometimes very abrupt bluffs, having little or no vegetation upon them. Others of these bluffs slope more gently to the valleys beyond, and are covered with wild grasses that furnish grazing for stock a large portion of the year. These timber or forest lands are what are called the "barrens," pronounced by the early settlers "barns." This name was given to these lands because their fertility was supposed to have been very much exhausted and nonproductive by reason of the variety of trees growing on them, and also on account of the fires running through them from the prairies, which it was believed cooked the soil. The very fact that these lands were covered with the excellent growth of timber found there, indicated the productiveness of the soil, and the settlers soon learned that the land known as the barrens when cleared and put under cultivation, produced magnificent crops of cereals, especially winter wheat. Indeed many of the so-called barren farms have become equally productive of as great a variety of vegetables, cereals and tame grasses as the prairie farms. The soil of the timber regions is generally of a light grey colored clay. On this land was a heavy growth of black, white and red oak, pin oak, laurel oak, walnut, butternut, white and red elm, hickory, iron wood, sassafras, redbud, hackberry, soft and sugar maple, swamp white oak, chinquapin, sycamore, pawpaw, the last four varieties being found along the streams. Many cottonwood trees were to be found standing alone on the prairies. Wild cherry and locust were also found in great abundance, while among the smaller trees were the black and red haws. On the lower bottom lands were found great groves of shellbark hickory, and pecan, as well as many of the varieties men-

tioned as growing upon the nplands. Many acres of these lands have of late years been dennded of the greater part of the timber, it having been cut and floated to the rivers in times of high water, and then rafted to the portable saw mills. Really the best of board timber has been taken ont of Cass County and black walnut is becoming very scarce.

PICTURESQUE SCENERY.

The topography of the county presents some attractive and picturesqne scenery. Emerging from the timber and stepping out npon any of the bare points of the tall rugged bluffs that border the Sangamon Valley on the south an entrancing scene of rare beanty greets the vision. Extending from as far east as the sight will carry for miles westward to the Illinois River, and following the winding conrse of the Sangamon River spread ont from river to blnff the wonderfully prodnctive Sangamon bottom lands; while far beyond enveloped in an atmosphere of pearly greys and distant blues are the receding hills and jagged bluffs along the western banks of the Illinois. Singularly beantiful in its primitive state, it is a hnndred fold more beantiful under cnltivation, especially at the time of wheat harvest when this expansive garden is tesselated with the great fields of golden grain, sqnare miles of dark green corn, the ripening clover and oat fields blending their more delicate coloring, and over all is cast the shimmering light of a cloudless summer day.

The beantiful, nndulating prairies, stretching for miles and bordered on the northwest by a splendid growth of magnificent timber, was nnusually attractive to the eye of the traveler and early settler, and makes the words of a writer speaking of a visit of the poet Bryant to Illinois, as applicable to Cass County as to any part of the great Prairie State.

"To anyone who possessed a scrap of poetic fire in his nature, Illinois offered one attraction that never failed to inspire a song of tribute to those far-reaching stretches of verdure set with myriad gems of wild flowers in spring; waving in blue green, sinnous billows beneath a fervent summer sky; writhing and roaring in the clutch of an antumn prairie fire; or lying cold and white nnder the pitiless light of the winter moon, silent except for the quivering howl of some prowling wolf.

"These are the gardens of the desert; these
The nnshorn fields, boundless and beautifnl,
For which the speech of England has no name—
The Prairie.

"I behold them for the first,
And my heart swells, while the dilated sight
Takes in the encircling vastness."

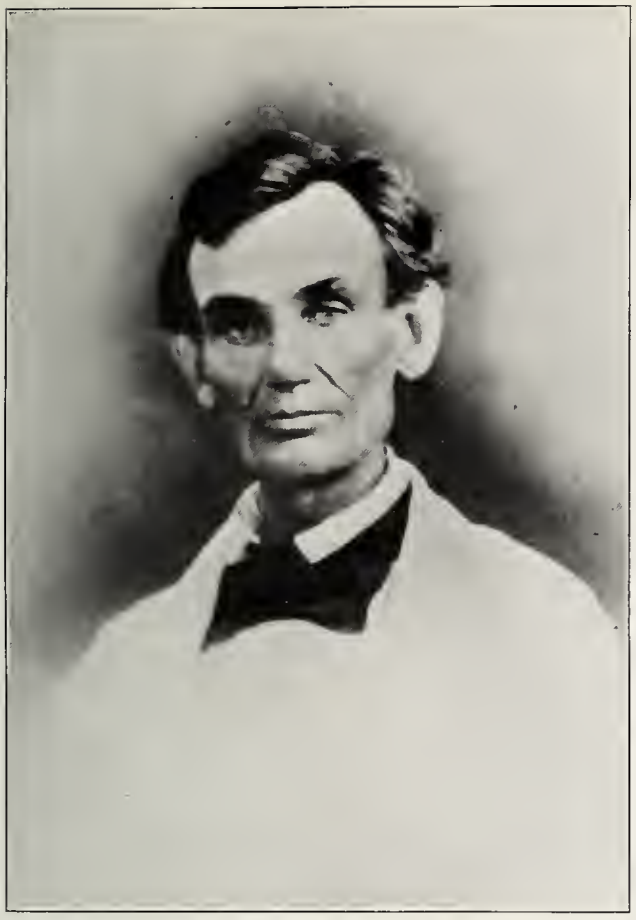
Thns snng William Cullen Bryant after his first visit to Illinois prairies. In the earlier days of travel in Illinois, there was necessarily much stage-coaching which gave the traveler an opportunity of enjoying the beanties of natnre, always providing the condition of the roads left him in a proper frame of mind to do so, and that the valley of the Sangamon in its early summer garment of leaf and flower must have been a rarely beantifnl sight, is evidenced by Bryant's little poem,

THE PAINTED CUP.

"The fresh savannas of the Sangamon,
Here rise in gentle swells, and the long grass
Is mixed with rnstling hazels; scarlet tnfts
Are glowing in the green, like flakes of fire.
The wanderers of the prairie know them well,
And call that flower, the Painted Cnp."

WATER COURSES.

As is but natnral the most beantiful scenery is along the water courses. In the northwestern part of what is now Champaign Connty, near the line which separates it from Ford County, and about seventy miles north and east of the geographical center of Illinois, rises a small stream. Its course is from there on extremely varied; it running in every direction that might be indicated by the magnetic needle, yet ever bearing westward. It is the crookedest stream in all Illinois, and rnns a course of nearly 240 miles to reach its terminns, where it pours its wandering waters into the Illinois River; when if it had had no other pnrpose in life than to reach a certain goal, it might have saved a distance of 100 miles or more. This stream is the far famed Sangamon River, and like famed personages it must be permitted to do some things as it sees fit without question or criticism. No more fertile region may be found npon the earth than is traversed by the Sangamon River,



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

From a photograph taken at Beardstown, Illinois, in August, 1858. The negative was by Felix Kesler. The weather was warm and Mr. Lincoln wore a linen coat.



THOMAS BEARD

Founder of Beardstown. From an old oil portrait now hanging in the City Hall at Beardstown.

stretching for miles upon either side of its banks is the Sangamo Country.

SANGAMO COUNTRY.

As far back as 200 years the Sangamo Country was known for its beauty of location. Its very name signifies "Land of Plenty." Its rolling prairies and its beautiful, stately forest trees that bordered its sparkling streams, made it indeed a happy hunting ground for the primitive natives. No wonder they fought to keep it from the intruding whites, and wept in yielding it to the inevitable, advancing civilization. At the close of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century, when the white men first began to inspect this region and report their discoveries, the news spread even as far as France, Germany and England. In the older states and colonies of this hemisphere the fame of the Sangamo Country was stirring the souls of that peculiar and distinctive type of pioneer American citizen, the frontierman, the advance guard of the American nation. Soon settlers' cabins began to appear along the banks of streams and the edge of the timber bordering the prairies.

ORIGIN OF NAME.

The Indians, long before the white men saw the Sangamo Country, were well aware of its fertility and the richness of its products. The origin and exact meaning of the word Sangamon are not absolutely and definitely known, but from a perusal of the writings of those who have given the matter some thought, such as Governor Reynolds, and John G. Henderson of Scott County, and other early writers of Illinois, it is evident that the word is of Indian origin and belongs to the language of the Pottawatomie tribe, who spoke a dialect of the Algonquin tongue. In that language the word, spelled "Sangamien," means the country where there is plenty to eat. Father Charlevoix, who passed down the Illinois River in 1771, mentions the river as the "Saquimont," and as the "t" is silent, it is pronounced "Sa-qui-mon." Henderson, in his early history of Scott County, says: "The Indian word was probably 'Sau-kie-min,' from 'auki,' earth, and 'min,' good," and it is highly probable that this is the correct derivation of the word. There are two other sources from which the word might possibly have been derived, namely, "Saukie," from the tribe of that name, and "ong," a termination signifying place. By the use of a connective consonant, which was often done, we would have "Saukie-mong," or "River of the Sauks." Or it might have been derived from "Sagie," a lake, and "mong," a loon, which would be rendered "Loon Lake River." The etymology first given is the most probable. Certain it is that at a very early date this river bore the name Sangemont and was pronounced Sangamon. Many early travelers who necessarily used the streams as the only highways by which they could reach the interior of the country, mention the Sangamon as among the smaller navigable waters they encountered in the Illinois country. This river is worthy of its place on the scroll of fame, and it is there never to be erased, along with the famous rivers of the old world; the Ganges and Euphrates, the Tiber and the Po, the Seine and the Thames, the storied and legendary Rhine, and the overflowing Nile; for upon its borders and fertile fields in the valleys and prairies adjacent, irrigated by its waters and those of smaller tributaries, there are produced thousands upon thousands of bushels of wheat, corn, oats and other cereals that furnish food for the millions of inhabitants of the great commonwealth of Illinois. Upon its banks and nearby sites, beautifully situated, are builded flourishing cities and towns and peaceful villages, peopled by as noble a race of men as ever trod the streets of the most imperial cities of the old world. Nor will it ever be forgotten that it was upon the banks of this stream, in a primitive village, every vestige of which has long since disappeared from the face of the earth, the most noted character of modern times, Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emancipator, spent the earlier days of his life; and whose body now lies under a magnificent monument in the capital city of the state, overlooking the placid waters of this humble, but justly famous stream, the Sangamon River.

This river by its natural course and situation was evidently destined to become a county boundary line, and did so in a very early day after Illinois became a state. After working westward past the third principal meridian until it reached the center of range 8, west, it then became the northern boundary line of Cass County. From there on it runs in its extremely

crooked course until it reaches the Illinois River. The Illinois River, which forms the western boundary of Cass County, Menard County being on the east, and Morgan County ou the south, with Indian and Prairie creeks, form a very fine natural drainage, and the soil is correspondingly fertile, and well adapted for agricultural purposes.

There are several tributaries to the Sangamon and Illinois rivers that assist greatly iu both irrigating and draining the land. In the east and northeast parts of the couuty are Cleary's Creek and Middle Creek, and a little farther west are Panther and Job's creeks, all of which rise in the prairie and running quietly for a distance, enter the timber lands aud then cut through the bluffs, or follow the washings of the valleys in the bluffs by former flood periods, and then dowu through alluvial soil in the bottom laud, and empty into the Sangamon River. Clear Creek, Lost Creek, Prairie Creek, Mud Creek and Indian Creek all flow towards the west and run through a slightly undulating country until they reach the valley of the Illinois. They have no high bluffs to evade, but find their hindrance to au early voyage to their goal in the sand ridges in the Illinois bottom. Indian Creek does not wholly belong to Cass County, a large part of it being in Morgan County. It enters Cass County in section 31, township 17 north, range 11 west, just south of the village of Arenzville, and runs iu a northwesterly direction to section 14, towuship 17, rauge 13, where it empties into the Illinois River. None of the above named streams except the Illinois, though carryiug an abundance of water, are uavigable. The legislature of Illinois, in 1822, declared the Sangamou River to be a navigable streaui as far as the third principal meridian, east of Springfield, which forms the eastern boundary of Sangamon County, but it was easier to float a bill through the legislature than a steamboat up the Sangamon River. Although one small steamer did get as far as Springfield at one time, it experienced such difficulty in getting out, that the experiment was never repeated. In fact the vessel had to back down stream for a long way, not being able to turn around. However, much interest was manifested by the citizens of Springfield, and of Beardstown, and intermediate points. The Sangamon Journal published at Springfield, in the issue dated January 26, 1832, annouuced that "Virand A. Bogue will navigate the Sangamon River if he cau find a suitable boat." In the same journal under date of February 16, 1832, appeared an article copied from the Cincinnati Gazette, or more properly an advertisement in the said Gazette of the 19th of that month.

"The splendid upper cabin steamer, Talisman, J. M. Polley, master, will leave Portland, Springfield, ou the Sangamon River, and all intermediate points and landiugs, Beardstown, Naples, St. Louis, Louisville, on Thursday, February 2nd."

This was the same steamer that went up the river and could not turn around. From the tone of the advertisement it was certainly expected that the vessel would make a successful voyage from Springfield to Cincinnati. It would have beeu a fortunate thiug if it could have done so for the inhabitants and hundreds of emigrants pouring into the Sangamon couutry, as there were no other modes of travel at that time than ou foot, horseback or in a "prairie schooner." It is said that wheu the steamer left Beardstown, a large number of citizens accompanied it until they were satisfied that the voyage would be successful. So hopeful were the people of the ultimate success of the uavigation of the Sangamon that a corporation was formed to dig a canal from a point on the Sangamou east of Beardstown, directly to the city and thus save from fifteen to twenty miles travel by the future passenger and freight vessels. The improvement of this streaui was advocated by Abraham Liucoln as a part of his platform, when he made his first cauvass for the legislature, in 1832. Indeed this was not all a chimerical scheme, for, by the expeuditure of a reasonable amouut of money, the Sangamon might have been made navigable for small transports for a long distance up streaui, if not entirely to Spriugfield, and have been of great service to the farmers along the route for shipping their produce to market.

CHAPTER II.

BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

SONG BIRDS—WINTER BIRDS—WATER FOWL—GAME LAWS—ALMOST EXTINCT SPECIES—WILD ANIMALS—FEW REMAINING.

SONG BIRDS.

Many song birds are to be found in Cass County during the year. The great diversity of its typographical structure furnishes a large variety of birds with nesting and feeding places. The wide, expansive prairies, the forests in the uplands, the dense underbrush and tangle of vines along the creeks and rivulets, the broad grassy bottom lands, and tall timber along the miles of river banks, are inviting places for the summer homes of a great number of birds as will be seen by the following list of summer birds found here. We have the mourning dove, black and yellow bill cuckoo, a number of varieties of the woodpecker, flicker, night hawk, king bird, several species of the fly catchers, wood pewee, phoebe bird, bobolink, red-winged black bird, cow bird, grackle or crow black bird, orchard oriole, Baltimore oriole, blue jay, a large variety of sparrows, among which is the very early, beautiful singing song sparrow, the rose breasted grossbeak, Indigo bird, scarlet tanager, the warblers in great numbers and varieties, the several species of vireos, the wrens, the wood thrushes, whose songs are considered the most beautiful of all the thrushes, the hermit and several other thrushes, the meadow lark, prairie horned lark, chickadee, chewink or ground robin, the common robin, gold finch, cardinal, shrike, cat bird and a few mocking birds, a variety of swallows, and whip-poorwill and blue bird. Along the rivers and larger creeks are to be seen numerous king-fishers. A number of these, though they are properly classified as migratory birds, remain with us the entire season, such as the cardinal grossbeak, the blue jay, the flicker or yellow-hammer, and even the robin will not infrequently be found winter residents. The robin is commonly supposed to be the harbinger of spring, but it is not always a true harbinger, and those persons who so frequently claim the distinction of having seen the "first robin," are not perhaps aware that the robin they have seen is one that preferred to linger in some sheltered place in the north where it has found sufficient food to maintain it, rather than make a long journey and return again.

WINTER BIRDS.

The cardinal is a permanent resident and may be heard any bright morning in winter, singing a beautiful song in the top of some tall tree where it delights to perch. The blue jay, the most beautiful plumaged of all our familiar birds, may be seen at any time in winter, flitting about its usual haunts, although rather quietly. It is not nearly as noisy then as in the good old summer-time.

WATER FOWL.

Cass County, with its numerous small lakes along the Sangamon and Illinois rivers, has always been a great feeding place for water fowl, including ducks, geese, brants, herons, cranes and many smaller birds not of the varieties sought for food. Before the sloughs and ponds were tiled and drained from the prairies, large flocks of geese and ducks came annually to feed upon the grain in adjoining fields. Hundreds were killed daily for the market and table by hunters and sportsmen. So great became the slaughter that it aroused the interest of many persons who feared that these birds would be exterminated. Influence was brought to bear upon the legislature, and a very effective game law, with subsequent modifications, has been in force for a number of years. Recently the federal government has taken up the matter of conservation of game, and congress has passed laws protecting the breeding of water fowl. A great part of the submerged lands which it is believed could not profitably be reclaimed, have been purchased by wealthy persons, and hunting clubs have been organized, many being incorporated. These holdings of large game preserves have not been very popular with local hunters and fishermen, and the practice has given rise to a great deal of litigation, but numerous decisions of the supreme court have settled many of the mooted

questions, and at the present time people interested, are working in general harmony for the preservation of birds, fish and other game.

ALMOST EXTINCT SPECIES.

Pheasants, grouse and prairie chickens were found by the pioneers in all parts of Cass County, and continued to breed here as long as there were open prairies and shelter, and their feeding and nesting places were unmolested. It is doubtful if they will ever be propagated in great numbers again, even with the protection of the game laws, and the assistance of the game wardens of the state, who have, for several years, been distributing game birds to such points as are deemed best for breeding and propagating the various species that are the delight of the sportsman for hunting, and the epicure for the table. Wild turkeys were also found in great numbers until recent years. They are now almost if not entirely extinct in Cass County. The loss of the sport of hunting and fishing, and of the wild game which supplied the larder with necessary food in earlier days, is but the result of the ever changing conditions of advancing civilization, and we must all yield to the inevitable.

WILD ANIMALS.

Over the prairies of Cass County and through its timber and bottom lands once roamed countless numbers of buffalo, roebuck, fallow deer, hind and stag. Bears, panthers, wild cats, big prairie wolves and the grey timber wolves, foxes, raccoons, opossums, numerous varieties of squirrels, including the fox and grey, otters, beavers, muskrats, minks, weasels, skunks, rabbits, moles, ground hogs, ground squirrels and gophers, were also to be found. Many of these which once supplied with food the larder of the early settler, have disappeared. There still remains evidence of the former existence of great herds of buffalo, but they passed over the Mississippi River and disappeared from their early haunts long before the Indian disposed of his last foot of land and moved on westward. The deer have not been seen in a wild state in Cass County for many years, nor have any of the fiercer animals of prey. The wolf and fox in small numbers may yet be found, but it is a rare occurrence for any of the present generation to see a fox or wolf skulking through the prairies or forests. Rabbits and squirrels are yet found in great abundance. The game law of the state has for a number of years protected the squirrel. Muskrats, skunks and minks are yet to be found and trapped, in fur season, but they are not caught in any great numbers. Coon hunting and fox hunting were favorite pastimes for the men in earlier times, and they have not altogether fallen into disuse, for there are those whose blood can yet be quickened and stirred by the baying of the fox hound, though the latter is almost as scarce and infrequently seen as the fox itself.

CHAPTER III.

INDIAN HISTORY.

INDIAN OWNERSHIP—EARLY TROUBLES WITH THE INDIANS—INDIANS IN CASS COUNTY—THE WINNEBAGO WAR—THE BLACK HAWK WAR—ABRAHAM LINCOLN ELECTED CAPTAIN OF THE SALEM COMPANY—CLOSE OF THE LAST INDIAN WAR IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

INDIAN OWNERSHIP.

In the light of present day American ideas of civilization and brotherhood of man, it is easily recognized that the original owners of all the lands of the present United States met with unfair treatment at the hands of their white conquerors. At the time, however, when the various Indian treaties were made, it was impossible for the government to look upon the Red Man as equal to his white brother. Indian atrocities had so inflamed those in authority that it was finally deemed wisest and most expedient, by the leading men of the country, to segregate the Indians, separate them from the white settlers. The Indians were nomadic, roving about, with no settled place of location. In their hands the lands lay practically fallow. Except for scanty crops to keep them alive, they did no farming, and their development was of little moment.



M. J. Clune.

With the advent of the white man into any section of the country, came instant improvement. He felled the forest, tilled the land, built mills, erected schoolhouses and churches, and in time gathered about his own claim others until a settlement of some size was formed. In bringing about these changes, it was but natural that there should be a clash between the original owners and those who had might on their side. The Indians, brooding upon what they considered their wrongs, retaliated, sometimes in shocking manner, and their various outbreaks only resulted in harsher measures for their restraint on the part of the government.

EARLY TROUBLES WITH INDIANS.

Most of the early settlers encountered trouble with the Indians who had not yet given up full titles to their lands, but the permanent settlements in present Cass County, which later were developed into villages and cities, made their best and most rapid progress after the settlement by the government with the remaining Indians, and they were removed to reservations west of the Mississippi River. Temporary treaties had been made with the various tribes but they were unsatisfactory and indefinite in results. Prior to the organization of the state in 1818, the general government issued an order addressed to William Clark, Indian superintendent at St. Louis, Mo., and to Governor Ninian Edwards, territorial governor of the Illinois territory, as follows:

"Department of War, Nov. 1, 1817.

"Gentlemen:—

"I have the honor to enclose you a commission, for the purpose of treating with the Illinois, the Kickapoos, the Pottawattomies and other tribes of Indians within the Illinois territory. The object of this negotiation is to obtain a cession from the tribes who may have a claim to it, of all that tract of land which lies between the most northeastern point of boundary of the lands deeded by the Kaskaskias in August, 1803, the Sangamon and Illinois rivers; and which tract of land completely divided the settled parts of the Illinois territory from that part which lies between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, and which has been lately surveyed for the purpose of satisfying the military land bounties, a circumstance which makes the acquisition of this tract of country peculiarly desirable.

"If either of the tribes who have claim to the land is desirous of exchanging their claim for lands on the west of the Mississippi River, you are authorized to make the exchange, and your extensive knowledge of the country will enable you to designate that part of it where it would be most desirable to locate the lands given as an equivalent. To other tribes who may not wish to remove, you will allow such annuity, for a fixed period, as you may deem an adequate compensation for the relinquishment of their respective claims. To enable you to give the usual presents on such occasions, you are authorized to draw on this department for $6,000.

"The contractor will furnish, on the request of either of you, the rations that may be necessary for the supply of the Indians while attending the treaty. Your compensation will be at the rate of eight dollars per day for the time *actually* engaged in treating with the Indians; and that of the secretary whom you are authorized to appoint, will be at the rate of five dollars per day.

"I have the honor to be, with great respect,

"GEORGE GRAHAM,

"Acting Secretary of War."

Under these instructions, negotiations were had with the Kickapoos, and on July 30, 1819, they ceded to the United States all their claim to the tract mentioned in the above order.

INDIANS IN CASS COUNTY.

Few Indians remained within the present limits of Cass County at the time it was separated from Morgan County. During the early French explorations the "Illinois Country" was occupied by numerous tribes of Indians, the most powerful being the "Illinois," from which tribe the Illinois River and the state itself, derive their names. The word Illinois is from "Innini" of Algonquin origin, signifying "the men," which was changed by the French into "Illini," with the suffix, signifying "tribe." The Illinois appear to have consisted of several bands or a confederation, including the Kaskaskias, Peorias, Cakokias, Tamaroas and Michigamies. The Mascoutens, though classed by some Indian historians as a band of the Illinois confederacy, seem to have been a sep-

arate tribe which had their early habitation around Green Bay, Wisconsin, and later were either forced out by other warring tribes, or voluntarily moved south into the Illinois country. From the fact that the government made a treaty with the Kickapoos and Pottawatomies in 1819 whereby the United States obtained title to the lands in the Illinois country, these tribes, whose former homes had been about the shores of Lake Michigan, must have drifted southward at a very early date. The Mascoutens were established in a village of considerable size on the banks of the Illinois River at the present site of Beardstown, and tradition at least says, that they were driven away from that locality by the Miamies and Iroquois, fierce tribes from the east, who waged a relentless war of extermination. Later these tribes, also, must either have withdrawn from central Illinois, or have been in turn driven out by the Kickapoos and Pottawatomies, who were in possession of the Sangamo and Illinois country, claiming ownership when the first white settlers appeared in this part of the state. Much of the so-called Indian history is merely legendary, and, though interesting as a story of a vanishing race, has little value as real history.

The treaty of July 19, 1819, between the government and the Kickapoos ended the ownership and every claim held by that tribe to lands now within the limits of Cass County. From that date the Indians began, though reluctantly, to move out, some to the north to old Fort Clark, now Peoria, and to various places, but the majority went to the western shores of the Mississippi River to lands traded to them by the government for their holdings here. By 1822 there were remaining in Illinois about 400 of this broken and dispirited tribe; quite a number being yet in Cass County. A few scattering families lingered within our border for several years, and were on very friendly terms with the white settlers who were rapidly putting into cultivation the Indians' former hunting grounds.

On the Sangamon bottom in Richmond Precinct, where Philip Hash settled in 1826, there were at that time a number of families of the Pottawatomies living in the valley under a chief of that tribe named Shick Shack. Zachariah Hash, a son of Philip, who was yet a small boy when brought to that spot by his father, became well acquainted with the Indians, and learned considerable of their language. Mr. Hash lived to the advanced age of ninety-five years, and in later life told many interesting stories of the early times, and especially of his Indian neighbors. He relates that once an Indian and his squaw came to the cabin to beg a bushel of corn. The corn was given them, but being in the ear, and the weather quite cold, the Indians were invited into the house to sit by the fire and shell the corn. They came in and both sat down on the floor before the open fireplace and began shelling the corn, but after the man had shelled an ear, he stopped and pointing to the palm of his hand said to Mr. Hash: "Och! Hurt Indian, no hurt squaw," and with that he permitted the squaw to finish the task, which she did in silence. She then shouldered the sack of corn and followed her master, the "brave," in a dog trot towards their wigwam.

Chief Shick Shack had a summer home on the top of one of the highest bluffs overlooking the valley, and being asked one day why he went up there to live in summer, said: "Skeeter no bother." Again when asked how he carried water up that high hill, said: "Humph, squaw do that." Shick Shack and his small tribe were very friendly and sociable with the Hash family, and when they left the valley for Fort Clark, on the Illinois River, the chief came to the house and bid his white friends a fond farewell. The high bluff, the scene of his former summer home, still bears the name Shick Shack Knob. It is a part of the place now owned and occupied by J. W. Lynn, who has named his place "Shick Shack Farm."

THE WINNEBAGO WAR.

The disturbance known in history as the Winnebago war, occurred in the summer of 1827. A treaty of 1804, between the Sacs and Foxes, and the United States Government, and another of 1816 between the Ottawas, Chippewas and Pottawatomies, dispossessed the Winnebagos of the lead mines and other territory about Galena. In response to remonstrances on the part of the Winnebagos, in 1825, commissioners of the United States, decided in favor of the Winnebagos. The rich lead deposits in the vicinity of Galena, had, in the meanwhile, attracted white settlers, and many serious disturbances arose between them and the Indians. In order to drive out the white intruders, the Winnebagos formed an alliance with the Sioux, but their purpose was divined, and Governor Edwards, in

July, 1827, authorized Colonel Thomas N. Neale, of Springfield, to raise a detachment of not over 600 volunteers who were willing to equip and feed themselves for a period of thirty days. A most interesting account of the campaign was given by the late Hon. William Thomas, of Jacksonville, who volunteered from this section:

"When the volunteers reached Peoria, the place of rendezvous, I was appointed quartermaster sergeant. I accompanied the regiment to White Oak Springs, some ten or twelve miles from Galena, where I remained several days, when the colonel, being satisfied that the further service of the regiment was not required, ordered the return home. The regiment, composed of independent farmers and mechanics, was raised, organized, marched to White Oak Springs, and returned home in not exceeding thirty days. Two men were drowned in a braneh of Crooked Creek returning home. We had no baggage wagon from this county. My mess had a very good tent, which very few of the other messes had. Having no baggage wagons, and having to carry our provisions, arms and equipments on horseback, we had but little room for tents even if they had been supplied. We slept on saddle blankets, with our heads on the saddles, and for covering had overcoats and blankets; but during that season of the year we had but little use for coverings other than overcoats.

"The question of pay was not considered of much consequence; it was well understood that this depended upon the action of Congress, and no fears were entertained of the success of General Duncan, our representative in Congress, in obtaining the necessary appropriation. We were not disappointed, for appropriations were made by the Congress of 1827-8, and we were paid in the spring of 1828, the following rates: Each sergeant-major and quartermaster sergeant received $9 per month; each drum and fife major, $8.33 per month; sergeants, $8 per month; each corporal, drummer, fifer and teamster, $7.33 per month; each farier, saddler and artificer, included as a private, $8 per month; each gunner, bombardier and private, $6.66 per month. In addition to which we were paid for the use of horses, arms and accouterments, and for the risk thereof, except for horses killed in action, ten cents per day. For rations, twenty-five cents per day, and one day's pay for fifteen miles' travel to the place of rendezvous and returning home.

"On the arrival of Colonel Neale with his command on the scene of danger, he found the war virtually at an end. General Atkinson with 600 regulars and the Galena militia under General Dodge had penetrated the enemy's country and compelled the hostile savages to sue for peace."

THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

A general account of the Black Hawk war is given in the first volume of this publication and very little need be said about it in this connection, but there are some incidents connected with the war that are of local and perhaps of general interest, that should be referred to. This famous war drama was produced in two acts. The first occurred as a result of persistent rumors of Indian depredations under Black Hawk, chief of the Sacs, who, with his tribe had been removed across the Mississippi River into Iowa, where they spent the winter of 1830. It was the year of the deep snow and the Indians, not being provided with sufficient food at their temporary camp, suffered greatly during the long, cold months, so were in an angry mood when the snows melted and spring opened up with prospects of a fruitful year had they owned suitable lands to put in crops. They had not searched out, nor even cared to make investigation of their reservation to which they had been exiled, but longed for their old villages and fertile soil in which their squaws had so often planted maize, and the valleys and uplands of Illinois over which they had for so many years chased the deer and buffalo and other game which kept them abundantly supplied with food. Thus on the verge of starvation, and nursing their deep seated anger at what they deemed an injustice in depriving them of their lands, wholly disregarding the treaty made with the government, they recrossed the Mississippi and sought their old homes, about three miles below Fort Armstrong (the present city of Rock Island), only to find their villages partly destroyed and their fields in possession of the white settlers. They immediately set about to oust the intruders. In order to accomplish this, the Indians threw down the fences of the whites, tore off the roofs of the houses, killed the stock and made a general havoc of the white settlements. So frequent and annoying were their depredations and so ferocious their threats that the settlers became greatly alarmed and sent a hasty re-

port to Governor Reynolds of the Indian uprising and threatened massacre.

Governor Reynolds responded promptly to the appeal and issued a call for 700 volunteers, directing them to rendezvous at Beardstown, on the Illinois River. He also notified General Gaines at Jefferson Barracks, and General Clark, superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, requesting aid in driving the Sacs back across the Mississippi. In response to the governor's call for volunteers nearly 2,000 frontiersmen gathered at Beardstown and Rushville, in the latter part of May, 1831, and were soon organized into two regiments and a spy battalion. Those who had not brought their own rifles were armed with guns purchased from Francis A. Arenz, a merchant of Beardstown, who had recently come from Germany. The guns were a light, brass-barreled fowling piece, made in the East, for the use of one of the South American governments, and not proving satisfactory, were shipped to the West, and a number of them were purchased by Mr. Arenz with a view of selling them to hunters for shooting birds and water fowl.

By this time Governor Reynolds had joined the martial forces in person, and placing himself at their head, crossed the Illinois River and gathered up the recruits stationed at Rushville. They then proceeded northward, arriving on June 1, 1831, in the enemy's country. At Rock River they were joined by General Gaines who had come up from St. Louis by boat. The combined armies of the whites comprised about 2,500 men, while Black Hawk's forces numbered only 300 warriors. Black Hawk, who had kept himself informed of the movements of the whites, finding himself so overwhelmingly outnumbered, slipped away in the night, and recrossed to the Iowa side of the Mississippi River. General Gaines learning that what the army had come to accomplish, was achieved without their assistance, and bent on doing something warlike, ordered the Indian village burned, which order was carried out. He then sent word to Black Hawk that he would pursue him across the river, which brought the erring chief to the general's headquarters, where another treaty was made, to the effect that Black Hawk and his band would remain west of the Mississippi River unless permitted by the federal government to return. This treaty was executed June 20, 1831. All hostilities being ended, the victorious army returned home, and the volunteers were disbanded, and thus ended the first act of the Black Hawk war.

The second act was a more serious matter. Black Hawk and his band of Sacs, with their women and children, had spent the winter of 1831-2, on the site of old Fort Madison in the present state of Iowa. They still clung to the idea that they had been wronged in the purchase of their lands by the government, and believing, or pretending to believe, that there could be no actual sale of land, Black Hawk consequently, in the spring of 1832, again made preparations to cross the Mississippi into Illinois. In a writing relative to the sale of lands, Black Hawk had declared that lands were given by the Great Spirit to his children to live upon and cultivate as far as necessary for their subsistence; and so long as they cultivated the land and occupied it, they had a right to the soil, but when they left it voluntarily, other people had a right to settle upon it; that nothing could be actually sold but such things as could be carried away.

On April 6, 1832, Black Hawk crossed the Mississippi River, this time about fifty miles below Fort Armstrong, at the present site of Oquakwa, hoping thus to escape the vigilant eye of General Atkinson, who had taken charge of the troops at Fort Armstrong. He claimed that if he were not permitted peaceably to occupy his old village, that he then only desired to pass through the country to join the Winnebagos on Rock River, near the Wisconsin line, there to raise crops. The settlers were on the outlook, and Black Hawk had no sooner crossed with his band, than the event was reported to General Atkinson, who immediately notified Governor Reynolds of the Indian invasion, and asked for assistance to repel the hostile savages. The governor again responded promptly with a call for "a strong detachment of militia" to rendezvous at Beardstown. The call was issued April 16, 1832, and the meeting was set for April 22, 1832. A large force responded to the call, and was soon organized into four regiments, and also a spy battalion, and an odd battalion. The promptness of this action will be appreciated when it is recalled that but sixteen days elapsed between Black Hawk's crossing of the Mississippi and the organization of the regiments. All the messages had to be carried on foot or on horseback, over hun-



Claude J Armstrong



Edith F Armstrong

dreds of miles of broken country, interspersed with bogs, swamps and unbridged rivers.

It was a motley crew that gathered at Beardstown. No government uniforms were furnished them. Each man was dressed as he appeared every day, some appearing in homespun jeans, some in leather leggins and jacket, and a few in store clothes, or in the rough cloth that had just begun to make its way westward. A number wore coonskin caps. Their arms consisted of the squirrel rifles or the larger bored ones used for shooting game, while some had double barreled shot guns. It is quite probable that some came with the guns furnished by the government for the previous campaign which had been purchased from Mr. Arenz. Each man had his powder horn and shot pouch slung over his shoulder. They were a brave, hardy set of men, used to their own way of handling arms, though very awkward in any sort of regular drill. However, they had had some little experience in drill, as the then admirable law of the state made every able bodied man subject to militia call, and required that at certain times each year he should practice drilling under penalty of the payment of one dollar for failure to respond. As one person speaking of this requirement said: "Dollars were hard to get hold of so drilling was cheaper."

In that group of patriots appeared one who subsequently proved to be the most interesting figure of his times, Abraham Lincoln, who had been at Salem, in Sangamon County, now a part of Menard County, for about a year, and was a clerk in Denton Offett's store. When the messenger appeared in Salem with the governor's call to arms, Mr. Lincoln, with a number of other young men, responded immediately, and soon a company from Salem appeared at Beardstown. There each company elected its own officers, and Mr. Lincoln was made captain of the Salem company. The election was held in an open field, and at a given command, the troops surrounded their candidate.

Travis Elmore, of Cass County, was a private in Captain Lincoln's company, and served forty-eight days when he was honorably discharged. The certificate of discharge is signed by A. Lincoln, and shows that Elmore was enrolled in "Lincoln's company of mounted volunteers, in the regiment commanded by Col. Samuel M. Thompson, in the brigade under Generals S. Whiteside and H. Atkinson, called for the protection of the Northwestern Frontier, against an invasion of the British band of Sac and other tribes of Indians."

A number of men who subsequently became prominent in the affairs of this state and the nation, were soldiers in the Black Hawk war, either as privates or officers, one of whom was Hon. Adam W. Snyder, the father of Dr. John F. Snyder, of Virginia, Cass County. Adam W. Snyder was a state senator, from St. Clair County, but the legislature being adjourned when the Indian outbreak occurred, he responded to the call of the governor by enlisting as a private in Captain John Winstanley's company, where he served in that capacity and as adjutant of the regiment until mustered out in May. Several companies were mustered out and a number of the members, who were dissatisfied from one cause and another, or frightened at the prospect of having their scalps dangling at the belt of some redskin, went home. The regiments were re-organized, and Dr. Snyder was elected captain of a company made up almost exclusively of men from his own county of St. Clair, and the adjoining county of Madison. Adam W. Snyder was born in Connellsville, Pa., October 6, 1799. He came to Illinois in 1817 and settled at Cahokia, where he formed the acquaintance of Jesse B. Thomas, who was the president of the first Constitutional Convention of this state, and was also one of the first two United States senators from Illinois. Before the organization of the state, Mr. Thomas was one of the territorial judges. Through the persuasion of Judge Thomas, Mr. Snyder was induced to study law, which profession he followed during the remainder of his life, though he devoted a great deal of his time to the state and general government as a state senator and as a member of Congress. He was the nominee of the Democratic party in 1841, for governor of Illinois, and would without doubt have been elected had not a serious illness overtaken him from which he died May 14, 1842, three months before the election. The following is quoted from General Usher F. Linder's "Early Bench and Bar of Illinois." Writing of Mr. Snyder, he, in part, says: "He was a most elegant gentleman, and was the only man that ever beat old Governor Reynolds for Congress. I never knew a man possessing higher colloquial and conversational powers. He was never at a loss for a word or idea. I never enjoyed a richer treat than the society

and conversation of Adam W. Snyder. Had he lived he certainly would have been governor beyond all doubt for he was decidedly the most popular Democrat in the state of Illinois."

Captain Snyder served his country well and bravely until the close of the Black Hawk war, through all the dangers attendant upon conflict with a cunning, merciless and brutish savage. Careful historians of that war give Captain Snyder a prominent place in the story of the last Indian war in the state of Illinois.

To resume the history of the war, Captain Lincoln, by the muster out of his company in May, 1832, was reduced to the ranks, but not by any fault of his own. He, together with General Whiteside, re-enlisted as privates, Mr. Lincoln in Captain Iles' company, and was finally discharged at Whitewater, in the present state of Wisconsin. From there, he and a comrade started home, but having their horses stolen the first night, they were obliged to make the rest of the journey as far as Peoria on foot. There they secured a canoe and paddled down the Illinois River to Havana, where they sold the canoe and went on foot across the country to Salem, where Mr. Lincoln immediately engaged in the more hazardous occupation of running for the legislature.

Governor Reynolds, who had placed himself at the head of the army, collected at Beardstown and other points, surrounded himself with a full staff of officers, including a chaplain, the latter officer secured in the person of Rev. Reddick Horn, a Methodist preacher of Cass County. He came to Beardstown in 1823, settled there, and afterwards entered land in township 18 north, range 11. Rev. Horn was evidently the first minister of the gospel to invade and preach the word in the wilderness of Cass County. The Captain Iles above mentioned, who afterward became Major Iles, came to Cass County by way of Beardstown, in 1819, and made his way across the woods and prairies to Calhoun, on the present site of Springfield, where he became a permanent settler. The volunteers not already discharged on August 15, 1832, were mustered out, at Dixon's Ferry, whence they returned to their homes, feeling safe from any more Indian invasions or depredations.

From that time on the early settlers of Cass County devoted their time to improving their farms, building schools and churches and laying out roads, erecting bridges over streams to reach the village markets and the grist mills that were now being put up in convenient and suitable localities.

CHAPTER IV.

MOUND BUILDERS.

CASS COUNTY ONCE THE ABODE OF AN UNKNOWN RACE—THE ILLINOIS VALLEY PERHAPS ATTRACTED AN AGRICULTURAL PEOPLE—A MYSTERY UNSOLVABLE—DIFFERENT TYPES OF MOUNDS FOUND——CAHOKIA MOUND—NUMEROUS MOUNDS ONCE IN THE VICINITY OF BEARDSTOWN—A REMARKABLE HISTORIC RELIC OF THAT PLACE NOW DESTROYED—THE INDIANS MIGHT HAVE SUCCEEDED THE MOUND BUILDERS.

ABODE OF AN UNKNOWN RACE.

No other evidence is required than that afforded by a look over the Illinois and Sangamon valleys, from the high bluff along the eastern and southern borders, to convince the beholder that whatever prehistoric people inhabited Illinois before the Indians, that people must surely have selected and occupied this particular part of Illinois as a more or less permanent abode. All human beings of intelligence are moved and actuated by similar conditions. Were these prehistoric people agriculturally inclined, they found here everything suitable for the purpose. Excellent alluvial soil, a climate favorable to the growing of necessary cereals to support life of themselves and domestic animals; streams navigable for vessels of sufficient size to transport their surplus products; plenty of fuel on the uplands; abundance of fresh water below the earth's surface but a short distance, and cropping out in many springs along the bluffs. There is nothing certain, however, known as to who or what character of people they were who made this highly favored section their abiding place and called it home. A race of people called the Mound Builders, certainly did occupy the Illinois Valley. They are called the Mound Builders, not because mound building was their principal occupation, but because

they left no other evidence but the mounds they built, of their presence here.

Much speculation has been indulged in by archaeologists, and many volumes written by scholars who have become deeply interested in the subject, but all to little purpose so far as solving the mystery is concerned. An article on the subject of the Mound Builders appears in the first volume of this work, and though differing materially in many respects from the writings of others on the subject, covers the main points and gives the reader a general idea of what the Mound Builders did and who they were supposed to have been.

The subject is referred to here at length because of the local interest the people of Cass County have therein, on account of the presence, uutil about 1853, of a splendid specimen of the mounds left by that departed race of people, ou the left bank of the Illinois River, where the city of Beardstown now stands. Dr. J. F. Snyder of Virginia, ex-president of the Illinois State Historical Society, who has made a fruitful study of the subject, resulting in the accumulation of a vast amount of extremely interesting historical facts, writing of early Illinois, after alluding to the voyage of the French explorers up the Illinois River says: "But our state has a much older and uuwritten history extending from the dim archaic past to that daring canoe voyage of Joliet and Marquette. Aloug its picturesque ranges of bluffs; on the shores of its beautiful lakes and streams; on its fertile prairies and alluvial bottoms, abound the curious relics of its earliest human occupant of a bygone age, evidences of the primitive arts as well as of the higher culture of a people of an unknown origin, who disappeared, leaving no other record of their history. In Illinois are the works of the Mound Builders, and numerous and varied in form and dimensions and of as facinating interest as any elsewhere found in the United States. In the Rock River Valley are seen the singular effigy mounds representing figures of the human form, birds, animals, and nondescript objects projected on a gigantic scale. The mounds of the Illinois River region are of a distinct and differeut type, corresponding with those of Ohio; while in the American bottom, opposite St. Louis, are the huge Tocali or truncated pyramids, identical in structure with those of the southern states, from Georgia to Arkansas, and very probably the product of the same people. Of that class is the Cahokia mound on Cahokia Creek, seven miles east of St. Louis, the largest of all the earthen monuments of the vanished race north of Mexico. It is almost a hundred feet in height, with level top of three acres, and square base measuring 700 feet by 500 feet in width. From it can be seen sixty-one other large mounds of various forms scattered through the bottom between the river and the bluffs."

At that day, and less than half a century ago, there stood near the river bank at Beardstown, one of the finest Indian mounds of Central Illinois. It was a sepulchral mound, conical in form, eighty feet in height, and about 500 feet in diameter at the base. It was evidently made from clay brought from the bluffs four miles distant. Those now living who saw the mounds before the work of destruction of theu was begun, say that there were several mounds in close proximity to the large one; that about forty yards down the river stood the smallest of the groups, and still further down the river was a small mound about twelve feet high, and that all the mounds were made of similar clay. The base of the large mound extended from the verge of the river bank to Second street, and from Adams to Beard street. The second mound was west of Jackson street, between Second and Third streets, and the last one stood below Arenz street, between Main and Second streets. These mounds, together with the fact that for years the wigwams of the Indian village were clustered around them, gave the place the name of "Beautiful Mound Village," bestowed by the French missionaries. In Indian nomenclature it was knowu as "Kickapoo Town."

The mounds did not long survive the encroachments of the whites, who began soon after 1829, to settle upon the adjacent lots. The surface of these lots was almost pure sand and would hardly sprout grass; and the occupants, finding the mounds were composed of clay soil thought it would serve a much better purpose as a top dressing for their sand lots than it was then. Consequently the mounds were soon devastated and the contents spread about to increase the beauty of the lawns, and the fertility of the gardens of the newcomers who were wholly indifferent to historic values.

REMARKABLE RELIC DESTROYED.

The large mound was one of the finest specimens, and the secoud largest in the state. Its removal was an irreparable loss to archaeological science, and robbed Beardstown of an unique and beautiful relic of a bygoue race, of inestimable antiquarian value. Another cause of regret to scholars of the present day is that while the mounds were being torn away no record was kept of their construction, of the constituent material, or description or relative position of objects found imbedded in them. From old settlers it is learned that at the top and sides were discovered many superficial burials, of recent Indians very probably, accompanied as usual with their implements of stone, and ornaments of shell and copper. Among them was found the bones evidently of a Jesuit missionary, who had long ago penetrated the wilderness, there laying dowu his life in defense of his faith. He was entombed no doubt by his converts in that majestic sepulcher of a long vanished race. Around his skull was a thin silver band an inch in width, while ou his skeleton breast lay a silver cross, while nearby were the jet and silver beads of his rosary. At the outer edge of the base of the mound was uncovered the much decayed skeletons of a few Indians, enclosed with their primitive weapons, implements and ornaments, in a rude vault of rough flagstone. These were the remains, no doubt, of distinguished chieftains to whose memory their tribe erected that splendid and enduring monument. Before the mounds had entirely disappeared, one evening ten or a dozen Indian canoes were seen floating down the river. A number of the citizeus of Beardstown followed along the shore until they came to the big mound, when the Indians disembarked. After viewing the grounds and talking with some of the citizens, one of the Indians pointing to the mounds said: "There is where my great-grandfather is buried."

The late J. Henry Shaw, historical writer of Beardstown, well says of this mound:

"The decaying bones of the red warriors, as they lay in their quiet and lovely resting place, with implements of war around them; the silver and flint crosses of the missionaries, even the beautiful mound itself, which, as an ornament and historical feature of the town and river should have been held sacred, could not restrain the money-making white man from destroying it, and it is now recollected only by the old settlers who used to sit upon its summit and watch the passing away of the last of two races —the Indian in his canoe, aud the French voyageur in his pirogue."

The large mound, however, was put to a practical purpose before being carted away. Horace Billiugs, an energetic, enterprising citizen of Beardstown, built a large flouring mill and warehouse on the side of the mound next the river, and undertook the manufacture of a kind of flour bolted from cornmeal. It was his intention to ship the product to foreign markets, but it is said a certain drying process made it useless as a food product, and after sustaiuing some considerable loss in the enterprise, it was abandoned. A sawmill and planing mill were added to the plant, and the machinery used for the purpose of manufacturing lumber. This project was more successful as there was an abundance of board timber aloug the bottoms, and it could easily be brought by water to the mill. After a few years Mr. Billings sold the machinery to John Fred Nolte, and Stephen Elam, who moved it to block 83, original town. The big warehouse by the mound was later used for storing corn, which was hulled and packed in two bushel sacks, for shipping to the river freight boats. The arrangement of the building was a convenient forerunner of our present day elevators; the roads up the mound being so graded that the farmers hauling grain could drive to the third and fourth story of the building, unload, turn and drive down after dumping their loads. Grain and such other commodities as were there stored, could be sent down an incline to the boats on the river. At one time the house was so loaded with grain that the north walls bulged out and let a great quantity of grain fall into the river, causing a total loss. After that accident, the building was abandoned, and the mound being gradually removed, it stood there a dilapidated old landmark until one morning in May, 1867, it took fire from some unknown cause aud burned to the ground.

There is little or no evidence anywhere else in Cass County of the pre-existence of the race of so-called Mound Builders. Whether the race known as the Auerican Indian, was the immediate successor of the Mound Builders, as some think they were, or not, it is certain that the Indians took possession of the mounds wherever

SYLVESTER J. BARTLETT.

MRS. SYLVESTER J. BARTLETT.

they found them, and occupied them as they saw fit for any purpose.

Northeast of Arenzville there remained for a long time evidences of a large Indian burying ground, and Mr. Frank Bridgeman, giving items for a biographical sketch says:

"In 1833 there was a large temporary encampment of Indians on the cemetery hill east of Arenzville. The chief was a tall man, over six feet in height, dressed in fine style." Mr. Bridgeman continues that he made a visit to this encampment, taking along as presents some whisky and tobacco, which he delivered to the chief who shared them with a select few of his braves. In honor of the visitor who had brought the most acceptable presents, they formed a circle about him and danced and went through other ceremonial motions, much to his delight and amusement. He thought that these red men were gathering to go to some point across the Mississippi River. Mr. Bridgeman is certainly mistaken in his date, as the Black Hawk war had closed before that time, and no Indians were in or near Arenzville, or the western part of Cass County as late as 1833. It is more probable that the incident occurred about 1823, in which year the last large bodies of Indians were moving from Cass County to the lands west of the Mississippi River.

CHAPTER V.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

REMOTE HISTORY—CONFUSION OF TERMS—COUNTY OF ILLINOIS—FIRST SETTLERS—THOMAS BEARD—FOUNDING OF BEARDSTOWN—SETTLERS PRIOR TO 1830-31—ROADS AND TRAVEL—HARDSHIPS AND DANGERS—CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES—METHODS OF TRAVEL—PRAIRIE SCHOONERS—PERSONS ENTERING LAND—WINTER OF THE DEEP SNOW—PASTIMES AND AMUSEMENTS—PIONEER CONDITIONS—HON. WILLIAM H. THACKER—SCENES OF FRONTIER DAYS RECALLED.

REMOTE HISTORY.

In order that we may know the origin and source of government of the particular territory comprising the present county of Cass, we will look back into the remotest history of the United States and the prior colonies and trace, if possible, our course to the present time.

Title by right of discovery is founded only upon the recognition of that right by the comity of nations; and this comity obtains only among so-called civilized nations. Strictly speaking there can be no such title, absolute, unless it can be made to appear conclusively that the land in question was not in possession of any human being, actually or constructively.

Although many of the old world nations claimed portions of America by right of discovery, yet they were unwilling to rest their claim of title exclusively upon such tenure, but wherever they found natives in possession or who had a reasonable claim of title, they sought to extinguish the native's title by treaty or purchase. Oftentimes titles were secured by treaty or purchase after the use of methods not always creditable to the alleged civilized race of traders.

England had claimed a large portion of North America, by right of discovery, and having so claimed it without much dispute from other nations, concluded to dispose of at least a part of it. So, on May 23, 1609, King James, who was, as he himself said "By grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc.," which said date was the fourth year of his reign as king of England, France and Ireland, and the thirty-ninth year of his reign over Scotland, gave to a colony organized to receive it, a grant or charter of Virginia. The land included in the grant was described as that part of America lying along the coast 200 miles south and north from a point of land called Point Comfort, and extending from sea to sea. It also included all islands lying within a hundred miles along the said coast of either sea. The title was to be in free and common socage, and not in capite. The consideration was the payment to the king the fifth part only of all ore of gold and silver that from time to time might be gotten or obtained, for all manner of service. When or how often this fifth part of the ore was paid, if at all, is not known. The changing political conditions soon put an end to the rights of both high contracting parties.

CONFUSION OF TERMS.

The expression "from sea to sea" in the description of the territory granted by the Vir-

ginia charter of 1609, mentioned above, led the Virginians to make claim to that part of the domain north of the Ohio River and extending west to the Mississippi and Illinois rivers as a part of the original grant. The interpretation placed by them upon that charter justified them as being fully within their rights in legislating for that territory. The state of Virginia also felt its title by the original charter was streugthened by the success of her troops under Colonel George Rogers Clark. Further history of this period is taken up in the first volume of this work.

COUNTY OF ILLINOIS.

On November 30, 1778, a requisite bill for the government of the "County of Illinois," as it was then designated, was introduced in the Assembly of Virginia, and on December 9 of the same year was duly passed by both houses. The new territory was, by the law, treated as a county of Virginia, and Patrick Henry, then governor of Virginia, became also the first governor of Illinois. The chief executive officer for the county was called the county lieuteuant or commandant. Being desirous of having the new goverument for that portion of their unkuown domain, put into operatiou as soon as possible, the governor, three days after the passage of the act, on December 12, appointed John Todd county lieutenant of the County of Illinois. John Todd was a native born American, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, his father having come from Scotland in 1737, and settled in Pennsylvauia.

Matters, however, had not been at a standstill in the West, since the capture of Kaskaskia by Clark, on July 4, of the same year. A form or semblance of advancing civilization had been set in progress by Clark, who established a tentative government, and also, as he says in his memoirs, a court of civil judicature in Cahokia, the judges to be elected by the people; and in fact such a court was established consisting of seven justices, and as these were elected by popular vote, this became the first election of chief magistrates in Illinois, and occurred in the mouth of October, 1778.

In the course of time, the war of the Revolution ended and the first struggle for independence from the old world came to a successful termination. The "Illinois County," or territory, was still claimed by and recognized as a part of Virginia, but in 1784, it was ceeded to the general government of the United States. A committee of Congress proceeded to provide for the establishment of a form of government for the new territory. The action of the committee was approved, and the act adopted provided that when there should be 20,000 free inhabitants withiu the limits of any territory, they should have authority to call a convention to establish a permanent constitution and government for themselves without auy other limitations than the following: That they should forever remaiu a part of the confederacy of the United States of America, with provisions of a more or less general nature and interest. The eighth article provided that any state having adopted a constitution, and haviug as many free inhabitauts as the least numerous of the thirteen original states, might be admitted into the Union. The form of government then provided continued until the adoptiou or passage of the Ordinance of 1787.

While Congress was yet sitting under the Articles of Confederation, in 1787, it passed an act for the government of the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio River; under which act or ordinance, Arthur St. Clair was appoiuted governor of the territory. Pursuant to authority given him by the ordinance, he, in 1790, by proclamation, established the couuty of St. Clair, so named in houor of himself. It covered a large part of the territory, its boundaries being: from the mouth of the Mackinaw River down the Illinois to the Mississippi; then down that river to the Ohio, then up the Ohio to the mouth of Massac Creek; thence in a direct line northward to the mouth of the Mackinaw, the place of beginning. Thus, being in that portion of the Northwest Territory eutirely within the present limits of Illinois, St. Clair became the first county of the state. Although many and frequent changes iu the area and boundaries as first erected have been made, the present St. Clair County has always been a part of the original St. Clair County territory, and hence will always bear the distinction of being the first couuty of Illiuois.

FIRST SETTLERS.

Looking back over a period of one hundred years, there are few indeed of this generation but have an interest in knowing who first determined to, and actually did become the first

permanent settlers of Cass County. While the sources of information as to the persons, and dates of arrival of the earliest settlers is meager, yet from the best obtainable data, it is generally conceded that the first white settler in Cass County was Eli Cox, who came into the county in 1816, and located in the eastern part of the county at the head of a creek which was given his name and is still called Cox's Creek. A large grove of excellent timber which had escaped the effects of the prairie fires, was growing there, and it too bears the name of Cox. At that time, there was not another white person, as far as can be learned, in all that part of Sangamon County. The government had not yet secured the Indian titles, and of course had made no surveys. There were no such divisions as sections or townships to guide him, but Mr. Cox staked out a claim, and remained upon it for awhile, when he left and did not return until 1819. He then built a cabin and commenced permanent improvements. He lived upon that tract of land continuously until his death, which occurred in 1881.

THOMAS BEARD.

In the year 1819, when Mr. Cox returned to take up his abode here for life, there appeared at Edwardsvillie, in Madison County, about 100 miles south of the Cox home, a young man, twenty-five years of age, inteligent and ambitious. This was Thomas Beard, who had come from the state of New York to seek his fortune in the then West. He had heard much of the Illinois River and surrounding country, and wished to visit it with a view of locating if conditions suited. He made the acquaintance of General Murry McConnell, who had explored the Illinois Valley to some extent, and being attracted to this bright, sturdy young man, General McConnell offered to make a trip to the Illinois River country with Mr. Beard. There were no highways, no bridges over streams, no way of travel except on foot or horseback. However, Mr. Beard had come all the way from New York over rocky roads and hilly or mountainous country, and General McConnell had been a soldier in the War of 1812, and had seen rough service, besides he had lived for many years in the wilderness, so these men thought nothing of a horseback ride through untraveled country. They set out on their lonely journey of 100 miles, recognzing the fact that their trip was fraught with some danger from the hostile Indians, who were at that time restless on account of the fact of the agitation relative to the closing of the treaty of 1819, which would transfer their rights to the whole Sangamon country to the government, and there was an angry undertone of feeling among the braves, even if it was not shared in by the chiefs, to the effect that the lands should not be delivered over to the white man, even though they were to receive a reasonable remuneration therefor.

Beard and McConnell struck out across the prairies, followed the streams and stretches of woodland that bordered them, avoiding the lagoons and swamps as much as possible, and after a week's ride they emerged upon the banks of the Illinois River, and moving on to the north they soon discovered the famous Indian Mound village, so named from a very high mound standing close to the left bank of the river, on an island, cut off from the river by a marshy slough. This famous mound is treated of in the chapter on Mound Builders.

Thomas Beard was delighted with the situation, and after a further survey of the surrounding country, wisely concluded that this was the ideal spot upon which to build a town that would ultimately attract the attention of pioneer business men, and result in the development of a beautiful city. Then and there, he resolved to remain and make this spot his future home. His wisdom, foresight and sound judgment have been more than verified by the splendid commercial city now standing upon the site then dotted over with Indian wigwams, tepees, and one lone cabin or hut built of poles, down by the river bank. This hut was believed to have been erected by French voyageurs down the Illinois River some years previous, as it was, when Mr. Beard first looked upon it, in a very dilapidated condition.

As Thomas Beard was the founder of the city of Beardstown, and really the first white man to encourage and lend all his energy to advance civilization and prepare the way for the coming of the splendid men who in so short a period built up one of the most substantial of the smaller cities of Central Illinois, it is deemed fitting that a mention of Mr. Beard be given in this place, somewhat more extended than is found in the first volume of this pub-

lication, which is devoted to the general history of Illinois.

Thomas Beard was born at Granville, Washington County, N. Y., December 4, 1794, eldest child of Jeddiah and Charlotte (Nichols) Beard, the mother being a native of Vermont. In 1800 the family moved from New York to the Western Reserve in Ohio. As evidence of the hardships and difficulties encountered by early pioneers moving west into a little known and sparsely settled country, the following is quoted from a sketch of Thomas Beard's family, written by the Hon. J. N. Gridley, now of Pomona, Cal.:

"They" (speaking of the family of Jeddiah Beard) "and company with them, began the journey on the first day of the year, and the season being so severe and the fatigue of the journey so great, most of the party halted at Northeast, Pa., and refusing to proceed further, settled at that place. Jeddiah Beard, with his wife and their three children, the youngest a babe in arms, pressed onward on horseback. Mrs. Beard became ill on the way and a halt was made for a time until she so far recovered her strength so as to enable her to proceed. For a portion of the way there was only a bridle path for a road. The father led one horse with Thomas and his little sister clinging to the animal, while the mother with the babe in her arms brought up the rear on another horse. The brother came out to meet them with an ox team and the party finally arrived at their destination at Barton, on the west bank of the Cuyahoga River, on May 4, 1800."

Thomas Beard's grandfather had been a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and when the War of 1812 broke out, the war spirit in the blood of Jeddiah Beard began to stir, and he soon enlisted in his country's cause and left young Thomas to look after the family, which he did with great fidelity. When twenty-one years of age, Thomas Beard left home, as has been stated, to go farther west to find, if possible, a better place for permanent settlement and better opportunities for young men. He passed through Ohio and the Indiana and Illinois territories, and finally landed at St. Louis, Mo., from which point he went over into Illinois to the town of Edwardsville, which had but recently been laid out and named after Gov. Ninian Edwards. There, after a hard spell of sickness, he made the acquaintance of General McConnell, and the two took the trip to the future Beardstown, as heretofore stated.

FOUNDING OF BEARDSTOWN.

After the treaty of July 30, 1819, with the Kickapoos, Pottawatomies and other tribes, by which the government secured the large country known as the Sangamon Country, national surveyors were put into the field, and soon had the townships, ranges, sections and other divisions marked out so that the settlers could definitely locate their lands after selecting them. Thomas Beard then became more than ever convinced of the wisdom of his choice in locating on the east bank of the Illinois River, on public land, 120 miles above St. Louis. "My reason for choosing this location is on account of its being a valuable site for a town and ferry. The country is settling fast," is what Mr. Beard said of his choice. On June 5 of the same year he obtained a license from Schuyler County, which lay just across the river from Mound Village, for running a ferry, and established one, which was the first across the Illinois River. In the meantime, one Enoch C. March had come to the settlement, and in September, 1826, he and Thomas Beard entered from the government the fractional northeast quarter of section 15, in township 18, north, range 12, west, containing 144.54 acres, and on October 8 of the same year they entered the fractional northeast quarter of same section, containing 30.54 acres. On October 10, 1826, Thomas Beard entered the west half of the southwest quarter of section 15, the same township, and on September 9, 1829, he and Enoch March laid out the original town of Beardstown. On February 23, 1830, Mr. Beard wrote home again, dating his letter as follows:

"Beardstown, Morgan County, Illinois.

"I am still keeping ferry and public house. A part of my land I laid out in town lots, which the people have given me the honor of calling by my name. The place is improving. There are three new stores and a very extensive steam mill, capable of manufacturing from fifty to seventy-five barrels per day. Also a saw mill and a distillery attached. I am now engaged in building a two-story and a half brick house, 33x43. This building prevented my coming home last fall, as I intended. My iron constitution still holds good, though exposed to every hardship."



Hiram B Baxter
Capt Co K 22nd & 148 Ind. Vol. Infantry.

Mr. Beard had but limited education, but was of a bright intellect and used every particle of knowledge obtained in his schooling to the very best advantage. He had been taught in early life by a private tutor, who prepared him to enter an academy, which he did later, studying history, mathematics and surveying, as well as the fundamentals of a common school education. Added to this, his sound judgment and energy in promoting every undertaking, made him a forceful leader in those trying pioneer times in which he lived. He was a highly public-spirited man, and an earnest advocate of educational matters. Mr. Beard and his friend, Francis Arenz, built the first schoolhouse, which was also used for public purposes and for religious worship. Mr. Beard was about six feet tall, straight as an Indian, and fully as muscular and active as one. He had blue eyes and light hair, and wore no beard except short side whiskers, which were of a slightly reddish cast. The portrait of him appearing in this volume is taken from an oil painting now hanging in the city hall of Beardstown, and is a very fair representation of that sturdy character that gave to this county the full strength of his early manhood to redeem it from the wilderness and make it one of the most delightful and habitable spots on the globe. Even the iron constitution which he had could not, however, withstand a sudden and virulent attack of typhoid fever, which occurred in the fall of 1849, and he succumbed to that dread disease after a very short illness. He is buried on the Thomas Beard farm, section 16, township 18, range 11, in Cass County.

The fame of the Illinois River and Sangamo Country had spread to every part of the United States then settled, and many parts of Europe, and Beardstown was known as an excellent landing point which could be easily reached by boats from St. Louis and Cincinnati, as well as other points along the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, where emigrants from the East or South might board them in their journey westward. Thus Beardstown first saw many of the early settlers who moved on farther east or into the central part of the state, as well as those who settled at Beardstown permanently, or in other portions of Cass County. Among those who came were:

Seymour Kellogg, at whose home was born the first white child in the territory forming Morgan, Cass and Scott counties; Martin L. Lindsley, Timothy Harris and John Chittrough, and a family named Eggleston. Archibald Job landed at Beardstown, then moved on east and settled in Sylvan Grove in 1821. In that year, it is said on good authority that there were but twenty families in all Morgan, Scott and Cass counties. Reddick Horn, a Methodist preacher, settled in Beardstown in 1823. He entered lands later near the Bluffs and finally became clerk of the Circuit court. The exact date of the arrival of each settler, or any considerable number of them, is difficult to obtain; we must look to public records and to conspicuous events from which to reckon. Many who came before the deep snow in 1830-31 may be named, and even then there may be a large number omitted. Between Beardstown and where Chandlerville now stands there were: Solomon Penny, John Wagoner, the Carrs, the Horroms, Jerry Bowen, a Mrs. Stewart, a widow, Shadrach Richardson and Thomas Plasters, Sr. Then above Chandlerville were: Robert Leeper, William Meyers, Henry McHenry, Peter Dick, John Taylor, William Morgan, James Hickey, Amos Ogden and Isham Reavis. James McAuley and Elijah Garner came in 1832. In and about the vicinity of Arenzville were: Henry McKean, John McKean, Alexander Pitner, John Melone, William McHenry, James Davis, George Bristow, Aquilla Low, J. A. Arenz, Richard Mathews, Charles Robertson, James Crum, Peter Hudson, Charles Wiggins, David Black, Alexander Huffman, Benjamin Mathews, William Summers, Andrew Williams and Richard Graves.

Near the center of the county, about where Virginia now stands, came Charles Brady, Captain Jacob Yaple, Henry Hopkins, Elijah Garver, John DeWeber, Thomas Hanby, John Dawsy, Samuel Way, William Weaver, Thomas Gatten, Halsey Smith, James Beadles, Matt Beadles, John Beadles, Silas Freeman and Littleberry Freeman. In the southern part of the county were: James Stephenson and his five sons, Wesley, James, William, Robert and August; Charles Beggs, Jacob and John Epler, John Hiller, Rev. John Biddlecome, Isaac Mitchell, John C., Peter and William Conover, James Davis, Isaac Bennett, Strother Ball and William Grove, settled in the southeast corner of Cass. Farther out on the prairie, and near Panther Grove, were: Stephen Short and his four sons; Tilman Hornbuckle, Stephen Lee, Dr. Stockton, John Miller, James Thompson, Daniel Blair and Rev. William Crow. Along the east side of the

county extending northward were the homes of George and John Willson, William Daniels, Bartlet Conyers, John Lucas, John B. Witty and Robert Hawthorn. Dr. Charles Chandler and Marcus Chandler and another early comer named English, settled near the mouth of Panther Creek, the present site of Chandlerville. From 1832 on, the country rapidly filled up with settlers from all parts of the East and from foreign countries. Many came from Tennessee and from old Virginia, and quite a host from nearby Kentucky, which had furnished so many of the citizens of southern Illinois, and who had been aggressive in the matter of office holding, and had, in fact, up to that time, dominated almost every official act of the new state. They had modeled largely our first constitution upon that of Kentucky, but Kentucky sent us many excellent, highly capable men, fitted to cope with conditions in a new country, and a large number of them made their way up into Cass County. Quite a number came "farther west" from Ohio and Indiana. Also came a large delegation from the eastern states, and in a very few years came the great immigration from Germany, England, Scotland and Ireland. Very few French came to Cass County, though many had settled in this state farther south, and a number of early French voyageurs had passed up and down the Illinois River.

It was natural, of course, that each nationality should settle in more or less close proximity, and thus we find the different settlements in this county which remain very marked to this late day. Around Beardstown and Arenzville came the Germans; the Scotch and English settled along the Sangamon bluffs, and back towards Virginia. Quite a number of Scotch and English families settled in township 18, north, range 10, west, and their descendants still occupy the lands entered by them soon after the county was organized. Most of the foreigners came to New Orleans and then up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, a few stopping at Shawneetown on the Ohio River and taking the trail across by land. It was in the picturesque and commodious "prairie ship," or "schooner," that most of the early settlers emigrated from the older states. These schooners were thoroughly substantial, with solid running gear heavily ironed, four huge wheels with broad, well-tired felloes, and tongue so arranged that either oxen or horses might be hitched. The high boards and curving sideboards were ribbed, barred and riveted, and great bows of hickory or young white oak were shaved out and bent over the bed of the big wagon, and over these were stretched the white canvas, with the loose curtains, which, flapping in the wind, gave the appearance in the distance which explains the derivation of the name. Most of these vehicles were drawn by four horses, or ox teams, some of the small ones by one team of horses or oxen. An early writer, referring to this style of craft and means of travel, says:

"The old 'Prairie Ship,' with its great white cover and flapping curtains, looking at a distance on the prairie like a ship on the ocean, was the great original of the emigrant wagon of the West. This craft was of vast capacity. It contained ample bedding for a large family made up of all ages and both sexes. It held cooking utensils, provisions, ammunition, tubs and buckets, besides a family. The wagon box, or bed, was fitted with flat, iron staples, about 18 inches apart along its sides, and in these were placed ashen hoops which bended over, from side to side of the wagon box, leaving a roomy space inside about five feet high and 20 or more feet long, which, when covered with canvas looped over at the ends, made a comfortable room, high and dry and safe from storms. Upon the sides of the wagon box were cleats to secure the crow-bar, axes, spades, mattocks, chisels and augers; and underneath hung the kettles, tar bucket, water bucket and baskets. An extra log-chain was coiled around the coupling pole under the wagon for use in emergencies, which frequently occurred."

ROADS AND TRAVEL.

There were but few roads and bridges at that time, and the prairies had to be crossed on Indian trails, the rivers forded where there were no ferries, and creeks and brooks, where the banks were steep, were still more difficult to cross. In such cases, sometimes bridges were improvised, or a tree felled across the stream, the limbs being removed. The wagon was then taken apart, and each piece and article of freight carried by hand across over the fallen tree and set up on the other side, and the wagon reloaded. Sometimes the one man of the party would do all this alone. Generally, however, for convenience, those movers traveled in companies or caravans, and in that case each man

would assist the other, and thus make the journey more pleasant, safe and expeditious. It was a common sight in those days to see such a caravan, the white canvas tops of the prairie schooners looking in the distance like a fleet under sail. These emigrants usually drove along with them a few head of cattle, or led some brood mares, so that in the new country they would be prepared to raise cattle and horses. Frequently there were also to be seen, attached to the outside of the wagon, coops with a few fowls for the purpose of raising chickens in the new settlement. The movers on their long journey found many pleasant incidents to relieve them of monotony. They had the bracing open air in which to sleep, the cheerful songs of the birds to awaken them from their refreshing slumbers, the ever changing, entrancing scenery to gladden their eyes; green hills and verdant valleys traversed by sparkling streams of fresh, pure water, broad rolling prairies, with myriads of beautiful wild flowers filling the air with their sweet odors, and bordered by magnificent timber, where under some spreading oak they pitched their camps for the night.

HARDSHIPS AND DANGERS.

Yet they endured hardships that the present generation cannot imagine. They encountered terrific storms, deluges of heavy rain that soaked the earth and swelled the streams so that they were often delayed for days until they could proceed. Then there were the moments, hours, aye, days, of depression; the longing for a sight of the friends and relatives and the old familiar scenes they had left behind. A feeling of homesickness, that disease which no physician, however skillful, can diagnose or cure, woud overpower them. It was not alone the women, but also the men, who were subject to these soul-racking and body-weakening attacks, but the men, not being of so fine a mental organism, and being stronger physically, and sustained by their responsibilities, could throw off more readily or repress their feelings in the presence of others. The days of such methods of travel are over and gone with the prairie schooner and the ox-team, and are but a dim vision in the mystic halls of memory. No more slow windings of slow ox-teams over the mountain steeps and the trackless prairies; no more stopping on the rise of the hill to take one last, fond, lingering look over the old familiar valleys at the old homestead never to be seen again.

CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES.

Having reached their destination and selected the tract of land that appealed to their fancy and suited them best, the pioneers staked it out and soon thereafter rode off to the government land office to make an entry under the law. Then they began in earnest the building of a new home in this vast, boundless region of the West. The first thing was the erection of the cabin. Early settlers invariably selected land with a goodly portion of timber growing upon it. Choosing tall, straight trees, their experiences in their old habitations had taught them were suitable for their purpose, they cut them in proper lengths and sometimes hewed them on both sides, then notched them at the ends so they would fit close together when laid up. What cracks were left were filled with slabs and clay mixed with straw if they had any, and if not, with dried grass or similar substitutes, in order to keep the clay together. Rafters were cut and put in place, then came the covering, and it was with no little skill that the pioneers prepared the roofing for their houses. A fair-sized, straight-grained black oak would be selected and felled, the experienced eye being able to recognize the right kind of a tree before cutting into it. Blocks were then cut of the required length and shaped until they were of the proper width. Holes were bored into another standing tree, and pegs driven in and cross bars at the proper height to support the prepared blocks, so that one doing the work of riving could stand in a comfortable position. Blocks were placed on the supports and the frow was taken up. Perhaps the reader has never seen a frow. It was made from a bar of steel about fourteen inches long and two and one-half inches wide. At the back the bar was from one-half to three-quarters inch thick, and ran to a point at the forward end. The front edge was shaped and ground only fairly sharp, just sufficient for it to enter the wood when struck a blow from a wooden mallet. The other end of the blade had an opening welded around for the handle, which was nothing more than a smooth, round stick, large enough for a firm handhold, and perhaps two feet long. This handle was placed in the loop formed in the end of the blade and extended at right

angles from the back. Grasping the handle in the left hand, and placing the blade against the board block at the right distance from the top side of the block so as to form a board of the required thickness, a blow was struck with the wooden mallet held in the right hand, which drove the blade into the wood square across the block, then a pull downward on the handle like a lever, and the board was split off the full length of the block. These boards were called clapboards, or sometimes weather boards, from the manner in which they were laid over each other at the end so as to exclude the rain or snow. It was extremely interesting and sometimes astonishing to watch an expert board-maker with his frow and mallet, and to note how rapidly and skillfully he would resolve a large block of wood into nice, smooth boards of even thickness. After a number of boards were made, they were piled up crossed alternately three or four feet high, and left to dry out. When utilized for roofing, the most general use to which they were put, they were, in the very early days, placed in rows, beginning at the lower or eaves edge of the roof, and after the second layer was on, the ends lapping well over the first row, a pole was laid lengthwise and pegged down at the ends. Thus the builders continued until the top of the roof was reached. In later years when nails were obtainable, the boards were laid on as ordinary shingles are now laid, but they had to be nailed before they were thoroughly seasoned, for when one of these old-fashioned oak clapboards did get hard, a bullet from one of the pioneer squirrel rifles would hardly pierce it. There was a use, however, made of these boards which the younger generation of pioneers will always remember. Some of the boards would get split, leaving a slat two feet long and from two to three inches wide. It was the rod of discipline, under which we all had to pass. The biblical quotation is never heard by the writer but that, in vivid imagination, he sees Solomon bending over a pile of split clapboards selecting a piece that would be exceedingly pitiful for him to see spoil.

The floors were made of puncheons, which were nothing but boards split out of straight logs, and if not made thin and smooth enough by the splitting process, they were hewed with a foot adze. The doors were made of split boards and hung with wooden hinges, and fastened with wooden latches. Sometimes a large bar of wood was prepared and kept in readiness so that in times of danger the doors could be made more secure therewith. The cabins usually had but one room and a loft overhead. A smaller room was sometimes added, and was a great convenience for storing provender and utensils out of the weather. As there were no stoves in the earlier days, it was of course necessary to have a fireplace. This was made by cutting an opening in one end of the house and building up three sides with small logs, as in building the cabin, daubing the walls with clay on the inside. This primitive chimney was continued on up to the roof, where it was topped out like building a rail pen. After passing the opening in the side of the house, the chimney was drawn in and continued smaller to the top. A slow fire was made and kept up until the clay lining was as hard as a brick. Such a chimney would stand a hot, strong fire for years. The opening for the fire wood was made very large, and would take in a back log 4 or 5 feet long, and from 18 inches to 2 feet thick. These logs were frequently dragged into the house by a horse, and then rolled into place with big, wooden hand spikes. The big andirons, often called dogirons, were brought from the old home by the mover, and were placed in front of the back log, on which was laid the fore stick. The hickory bark and other dry pieces of wood were placed between until a great heap was had, and the fire when lighted was soon roaring up the huge chimney mouth.

The cooking was done before the fireplace. Pots and kettles were hung on cranes, and baking was done in ovens of iron, which were big skillets with legs, with a covering of iron made to fit them closely. Coals were drawn out on the hearth, the oven was set on them, and more live coals were heaped around. Splendid corn pones were thus baked, and when wheat was grown, even large loaves of bread were also baked in the same way. There was also another kind of pone baked, called a corn dodger. This was made by forming the dough into large rolls, which were patted round, by hand, and then covered with clean wood ashes and laid in the hot ashes and coals, where they soon were excellently cooked, and were considered as among the best breads provided for the hungry household.

Around the big, glowing fire, which lit every sagging beam and corner of the great room,



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Hiram B. Baxter

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gathered on a winter night the true family circle.

"Between the andirons' straddling feet
The mug of cider simmered slow,
The apples sputtered in a row,
And close at hand the basket stood,
With nuts from brown October's wood."

After the cabin was built the family removed from the wagon which had been their home for so many months, a shelter was provided for the beasts; fences were erected, and an effort made to get in a crop, and then civilization could be considered to be on an upward grade. After 1832 came many settlers of all kinds and characters, of both a high and low degree of intelligence. Some came to linger awhile and then pass on, bringing nothing with them, and taking nothing away. Others came with a definite purpose and determination to better their condition, and as a necessity and natural consequence of their indefatigable efforts, steady labors and upright course of conduct, this once wild country soon became the happy home of a noble, industrious and thriving people.

PERSONS ENTERING LAND.

Many of those who came before 1830 entered land, thus indicating they intended to make their permanent homes here. A list of the entries are given here that may include some names that have been omitted in the list of early settlers given previously, with township and range.

In township 17, north, range 8, are: James B. Watson, William Cooper, Stephen Short, William Crow, Eli Cox, Robert Johnson, George W. Wilson, William T. Hamilton. In 17-9 are: Burton Litton, Page A. Williams, Morris Davis, Josiah Sims, Robert Fitzhugh, Jesse Gum, Thomas Atkins, John Vance, James Welsh, Richard Jones, James Fletcher, Andrew Beard, John Bridges, John Creel, Joseph McDonald, Gersham Jayne, James McDonald, Anthony M. Thomas, Alexander Beard, John Robertson, Felix French, Richard A. Lane, John McDonald, John Hughes, Susanna Walker, Solomon Redman, Henry Kitner, Martin Hardin, Josiah Flinn, David Manchester, William Miller, Strother Ball, Samuel Montgomery; in 17-10: William Chambers, John C. Conover, Susanna Pratt, David Black, James Marshall, Jacob Ward, William Porter, Jacob Lawrence, Carrolton B. Gatton, Thomas Gatton, Archibald Job, Peter Conover, William Conover, Abner Tinnen, Nathan Compton, Joseph T. Leonard, Bazaleel Gilett, William H. Johnson, William Breeden, Peter Taylor, John Ream, Samuel Way, Archer Herndon, Evin Martin, James Sturgis, Jonathan Atherton, Jacob Yaple, Alexander D. Cox, Henry Madison, James Marshall, Jesse Alard, Isaac Mitchell, Thomas Redman, George Tureman, Edward Fuller, Levi Springer, William M. Clark, George Freeman, Thomas Payne, Lucian Bryant, William Lamme, Silas Freeman, Isaiah Paschal, Littleberry Freeman; in 17-11: Thomas Wiggins, George F. Miller, Henry McKean, Daniel T. Mathews, John McKean, Daniel Richards, John Cuppy, Patrick Mullen, Shadrick Scott, Benjamin Mathews, Samuel Grosong, William S. Hauby, James Orchard, Oswell Thompson, Joseph C. Christy, Jos. L. Kirkpatrick, Frederick Trozel, Peter Karges, David Black, James Smart, John R. Sparks, Aquilla Low, Abraham Gish, Charles Robertson, James H. Richards, Peter Taylor, Martin Robertson, Jonah Case, Daniel R. Schaffer, Thomas Clark, David B. Carter, James Davis, Andrew Williams, Alexander Huffman, William Summers, L. L. Case, John Savage, Dennis Rockwell, Augustus Barbor, Joseph P. Creshwait, Alexander Pitner, John Thompson; in 17-12: Freeman Skinner, Kimball & Knapp, Asa C. New; in 18-8: Samuel Reid, Robert Elkins, Ralph Elkins, Henry Williams, Eaton Nance, John Lucas, Susan Washburne, David Williams, Joel Ragsdale, William Holmes, John Lee, Robert Nance, Joseph Lee, James Fletcher.

There does not appear from the land entry record to have been any of the lands of 18-9 entered before 1832, but as a number of substantial citizens came in shortly after, and entered those lands, a list is given of those entering lands in 18-9: Charles Chandler, Obadiah Morgan, Mary C. Chandler, Henry C. Ingals, Marcus Chandler, Ambros Conkey, Marcus Hicks, Reddick Horn, William J. Blair, Richard McDonald, Henry Dick, Thomas Combs, John D. Paschall, Coleman Gaines, Nicholas Kelley, Jeremiah Davis, Levi Dick, William McAuley, Thomas May, Cyrus Elmore, Azariah Lewis, John Fanschier, Dwight S. Marcy, Nathal C. Marcy, Joseph McDonald, Cyrus Wright, Carey Nance, Robert Nance, James Fletcher, Joshua Nance, Nathan Coffin, John Grigg, Alfred Dutch, John Dutch, James D.

Mathews, Abraham G. Gaines, Solomon Bales, Charles Throop, William C. Stribling, George Beggs, Elias Mathews, Charles Beggs, Stephen Lee, William Holmes, William Davis, George Cunningham, Andrew Cunningham, George W. Phelps, Nathan Robertson, John Lee, Joseph Lee, Francis Robinson, William Carver, Elias Mathews, Elisha Evans, Elijah Carver, William H. Windom, Thomas Boicourt, Andrew Howerton; in 18-10: William Meyers, Thomas Gatton, James Mason, Nathan Compton, Peter Carr, John Robertson, Susan Washburn, Henry Traughber, William McCord, Robert Alexander, Ralph Morgan, John Biddlecome, Zadoc W. Flynn, William Carr, William Sturgis, Shadrach Richardson, Robert H. Ivens, Josiah Rees, Joseph Baker, Thomas Plasters, William Sewell, John E. Scott, John DeWeber, A. S. West, John Ray, Joshua Crow, Benjamin Stribling, John G. Bergen, Phineas Underwood, Henry Madison; in 18-11: Henry Summers, Richard Gaines, John S. Warfield, Robert Farrell, John Farrell, Temperance Baker, William W. Babb, Eldred Renshaw, Samuel B. Crewdson, Solomon Penny, Benjamin Carr, Amos Hager, Reddick Horn, Elisha Carver, John Wagoner, James Scott; in 18-12: Thomas Beard, Enoch C. March, John Knight; in 19-8: Isham Reavis, Robert Taylor, William P. Morgan; in 19-9: David McGinnis, Stephen Handy, Thomas Plasters, William Linn, Wilson Runyon, William D. Leeper, William Meyers, John Taylor, Elias Rogers, Jesse Armstrong.

There were, of course, many who came about that time and settled in the towns, purchasing lots as they were laid out, and erected homes and business buildings, whose names either have appeared or will appear in other parts of this history, in connection with the narrative of progress of this county. Francis A. Arenz had come from Germany, along with others, at about the time of organization of the county, and a large settlement was effected near the present site of Arenzville, and in and around Beardstown. Early settlements were made at Monroe, at Panther Creek and Sylvan Grove, also at Lancaster, east of Philadelphia. Quite a large settlement formed at Princeton in the southeast part of the county, and in 1836 Dr. Henry Hall entered a large scope of land in township 17, range 10, and laid out the town of Virginia.

Freed from the annoyance and dangers from savage tribes that had been subdued and driven out of the county, the settlers went to work, after the Black Hawk war, with renewed energy to accomplish the next necessary subjugation of the soil. Until the time of the deep snow, cotton was grown to a considerable extent, but after that severe winter, cotton crops were a failure. Sheep had been brought into the community, and when flocks could be protected against the encroachments of the wolves and other beasts of prey, the wool was shorn from the sheep and carded by hand. It was then spun into cloth and made into clothing. The hand looms and spinning wheels usually formed a part of the household parapherualia. The women usually dressed in linsey-woolsey, of their own weaving, and the men in jeans, the cloth being colored either blue or with a dye made from walnut bark, which produced a color known as butternut. The skill of the people produced, from whatever materials lay at hand, that which was necessary for their comfort, and they were indeed fairly comfortable under all circumstances, except during the occasional severe cold spells, when,

"A chill no coat, however stout,
Of homespun stuff could quite keep out."

It was indeed necessary that the people supply their own wants as far as possible, and they early learned to do so. The opportunities for purchase were rare. Prior to 1834 there was not a single merchant north of the Mauvisterre outside of Beardstown, unless possibly the small store at Princeton was then opened, but from 1830 on it was not necessary for the settlers in Cass County to go far to mill. In that year a steam mill, of large capacity for those times, was established and continued for many years at Beardstown, besides a few good grist mills on streams which had been dammed to furnish water power. The Beardstown Chronicle, a newspaper published at Beardstown by Francis A. Arenz, under the management of John B. Fulks, in the issue dated March 1, 1834, says:

"Since the opening of the river, there have been shipped from this place 1,502 barrels of flour and 150 barrels of pork. Ready for shipment at the warehouse at this time are 581 barrels of flour, 400 barrels of pork, and 150 kegs of lard. Two steam flouring mills and one steam saw mill are now in operation. A large brewery and distillery are being built, with a grist mill."

A few schoolhouses had been built and were used as places of public worship. Itinerant school teachers came along and were employed to instruct the children in the rudiments; the pay of these teachers was raised by subscription, and the school term ended when the subscriptions ran out. There was preaching at the homes of the settlers, those having the larger houses opening them to the preachers and all who would come were welcome. There were also at certain times of the year camp meetings held in the groves where suitable conveniences were obtainable. Altogether, the people of those early days managed remarkably well and enjoyed life, despite the fact that they lacked anything approaching present day luxuries or even conveniences. The lives of the old settlers of Cass County and their environments were very similar to those in all of Illinois at that period, which have been so often depicted by writers of early days, and by all historians of the state, so it is hardly deemed worth while to extend these remarks upon this subject. It will suffice to close this chapter with a beautiful poem by one of Cass County's former citizens, now deceased, Hon. William H. Thacker. He was born July 15, 1836, at Goshen, Ohio, the fourth child of Stephen and Esther (McKinney) Thacker. Brought to Illinois by his parents in 1839, he lived near the Des Plaines River, west of Chicago, then a frontier wilderness. He acquired an education at subscription schools and at Lake Zurich Academy. Migrating to Mason County, Ill., he taught school until 1862, when he enlisted for service during the Civil war, in the Seventy-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and re-enlisted, serving until the close of hostilities. In 1876 he came to Virginia, Cass County, where he completed his study of the law and was admitted to the bar in 1880. He removed to the state of Washington, in April, 1890, and there continued the practice of law, for three terms representing San Juan County in the state legislature, and also served a term as Probate judge. On April 1, 1914, this eminent man died at his home in Arlington, Wash. He was a highly respected citizen in every community in which he lived, was a man of noble impulses, and was possessed of marked literary genius, which the following poem clearly proves.

THE SCENES OF FRONTIER DAYS.

The tide of time is backward rolled,
And scenes long passed I view once more;
The woodlands and the virgin fields
Are round me as of yore.
The meadow lark and bobolink
Pour forth their love notes rich and rare,
And from a hundred little throats
A shower of music fills the air.
I hear the bob-white call his mate;
The pheasant's drum at early morn,
At night the cry of whip-poor-will
Tells that it's time to plant the corn.
From thickets come the deer to feed,
At sunset and at morning's light,
The prowling wolves in search of prey,
With fearsome music fill the night.
The settlers' cabins here and there,
With clapboard roof and puncheon floor;
The pots are boiling on the fire,
The shortcake on the coals before.
The home-made loom against the wall,
Where back and forth the shuttle flies,
And show the linsey-woolsey grows,
And patient skill the weaver plies.
Above the door on wooden hooks
Convenient hangs the old smooth bore;
A trusty flint-lock, charged and primed,
And good at forty rods and more.
Here's grandma's rocking chair that's made
Of hickory withes, bent so and so;
A fawn skin stretched from side to side,
Supplies the cushion seat below.
This lin-wood trough on rockers fixed,
In royal style the baby bore;
And to and fro the lullaby,
It timed upon the puncheon floor.
The spinning wheel and fluffy rolls
The maiden spins in endless threads,
As back and forth the wheel she twirls,
And gaily sings and lightly treads.
Dressed in her linsey-woolsey frock
On Sunday eve, her cheeks aglow,
And wild flowers in her braided hair,
Miranda waits her expected beau.
The old well sweep and watering trough;
The grape vine swing beneath the oak—
The trysting place where lovers say
The sweetest words were ever spoke.
Across the bleak and frozen waste
I hear the howling blizzards roar;
The drifting snow the window hides,
And beats against the cabin door.

Fresh logs are piled upon the hearth,
The crackling flames drive back the cold;
The huddling children half afraid,
The mother's sheltering arms enfold.
Again the fierce prairie fire
Sweeps on in demoniac wrath—
A seething, roaring wall of flame,
Leaving destruction in its path.
I see the settlers helpless stand,
(The women white-faced bowed in tears)
Gazing in silent grief upon
The ruins of the work of years.
But from the depth of their despair,
A glorious courage seems to spring,
That gives them strength to build anew,
And hope for what the days may bring.
Theirs were the hearts to do and dare,
And loyal in the hour of need;
No matter whether rich or poor,
They questioned not of faith or creed.
Their generous hearts and helpful hands
Poured out their Christian love like wine;
And towering church and brazen bells
Could make their work no more divine.
Today across the gulf of years,
In retrospect, I see them all:
Those scenes of early frontier days,
Whose pictures hang in memory's hall.
That hardy band of brain and brawn,
They builded better than they knew—
They lived the pure and simple life;
From nature, inspiration drew.
They heard the call from out the West,
And westward on their course they led,
They bridged the stream and blazed the trails,
The feet of empire soon should tread.
The common luxuries of life
To them indeed were things unknown,
And where they delved and sweat and toiled,
The palace homes of wealth have grown.
No truer lives were ever lived,
In honest toil their years were spent;
And though they sleep in unknown graves,
The country round's their monument.

CHAPTER VI.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION.

EARLY BOUNDARIES—DIVISION OF NORTHWEST TERRITORY—FORMATION OF COUNTIES—ORGANIZATION OF ILLINOIS TERRITORY—GOV. NINIAN EDWARDS FIRST TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS—THREE MORE COUNTIES CREATED—CASS BECOMES A PART OF MADISON COUNTY—ILLINOIS MADE A STATE IN 1818—SANGAMON COUNTY CREATED—MORGAN CREATED INCLUDING SCOTT AND CASS COUNTIES—BOUNDARY LINES A CAUSE OF DISPUTE—METHODS OF MEASUREMENT—METES AND BOUNDS—RECTANGULAR SYSTEM—CREATION OF CASS COUNTY—WORDING OF THE ACT—THREE PRECINCTS AT FIRST—POLITICAL ACTIVITIES—ACT TO REMOVE STATE CAPITAL PASSED—LOSS TO CASS OF THE THREE-MILE STRIP—FIRST COUNTY ELECTIONS—LIST OF FIRST VOTERS—FIRST OFFICIALS—THREE MORE PRECINCTS CREATED—FIRST REPRESENTATIVE FROM CASS COUNTY—BEARDSTOWN FIRST MADE THE COUNTY SEAT—REMOVAL TO VIRGINIA—BUILDING THERE OF A COURTHOUSE—COUNTY SEAT RETURNED TO BEARDSTOWN—VIRGINIA THE PRESENT COUNTY SEAT.

EARLY BOUNDARIES.

County organization has been a favorite subdivision of a state or territory among the more civilized nations dating back many years, it having been found to be a convenient and effective method of granting the people, under whatsoever form of government existing, that certain measure of home rule, or self-government, so much prized by human beings. All of the various states of the Union have county subdivisions, except South Carolina, which has districts, and Louisiana, which has parishes. Both district and parish, however, correspond to the counties in other states.

The second county in Illinois was named Knox, but no digression will be made to speak further of it, as the only purpose of mentioning these early counties is to trace and note the changes in the area, boundaries and organization of the Northwest Territory, and the subsequent territories and state formed from it of which the present Cass County was at any time a part. Observing the boundaries of St. Clair County, as heretofore given, the reader will at once see that Cass County was a portion of the northern part of St. Clair County as first established, and if we are looking for historical distinction it will be further noted that Cass County was thus a part of the first county in the territory later converted into the state of Illinois.



Eng by E G Williams & Bro N.Y.

Ellen Baxter

Vance & Publishers

In 1800 the Northwest Territory was by Act of Congress divided into two districts. The western district was named Indiana, but included all the present Illinois. William Henry Harrison, afterwards president of the United States, became the territorial governor. Under the law at that time counties were established by proclamation of the territorial governor. Acting under that authority, Governor Harrison issued a proclamation February 3, 1801, by which he changed the county lines of St. Clair County and made it a county of the territory of Indiana and gave to it all of Illinois, but a small portion in the southern end lying south of a line running east and west about a mile and a half south of the present south line of St. Clair County, and extending east until it intersected a line drawn directly north from the "Great Cave," on the Ohio. Two years later this line was changed to run from a point on the Mississippi River four miles farther south, northeast to intersect the same north and south line before mentioned. The portion north of that east and west line retained the name of St. Clair, and to the part south of the line was given the name of Randolph County.

ORGANIZATION OF ILLINOIS TERRITORY.

These boundary lines remained unchanged until the organization of Illinois Territory, February 3, 1809. Nathaniel Pope, the first secretary of the new territory and acting governor, by proclamation on April 28, 1809, continued the counties of St. Clair and Randolph without change of boundaries or area except to extend the eastern boundary of each county to the eastern Illinois boundary line, which boundary lines are the present eastern boundary lines of the state of Illinois.

GOV. NINIAN EDWARDS.

No further changes were made affecting the territory in which Cass County was situated until 1812, when Ninian Edwards, who, by appointment, had become the first territorial governor of Illinois, by a proclamation dated September 14, 1812, created three new counties, one of which he named Madison, which comprised all the territory of Illinois north of a line running east to the Wabash River along the northern line of the present St. Clair County, and which line the proclamation said should be the second township line above Cahokia. Thus Cass County, after being a part of St. Clair County for twenty-two years, now became a part of Madison County, whose seat of justice was by Governor Edwards' same proclamation located at the house of Thomas Kirkpatrick. This house was on the site of the present city of Edwardsville, in Madison County. As at that time there was not a white person, so far as known, in the part of Madison County now comprising Cass County, and as the inhabitants thereof were all Indians, subject to and governed by their tribal relations, it made little or no difference to them where or how far away was the seat of justice. Many changes were subsequently made in the area and boundaries of Madison County, but it continuously retained the future Cass County within its borders until 1821.

ILLINOIS MADE A STATE.

In the meantime Illinois territory had, by an Act of Congress passed December 3, 1818, been admitted to the Union as a state, with all the powers and privileges of the original thirteen. Its officers, legislature and high court had already exhausted the pleasures and pastimes of a sojourn in Kaskaskia, as the first territorial capital, and had removed the seat of government to Vandalia. Judge Sidney Breese, who was at the time of the removal of the capital the chief clerk in the office of the secretary of state, says, in writing of the subject in later years, that it cost twenty-five dollars to move the archives from Kaskaskia, in a small wagon, and that it was necessary to cut a road part of the way through brush.

As the General Assembly in session there was being rapidly submerged with petitions and bills, by ambitious legislators, representing equally ambitious constituents in various parts of the northern end of the state, accelerated largely by the extinguishment of Indian titles, it became necessary that county government should be immediately established, and new county seats erected more accessible to the people. Again there was the alluring prospect of official position. The more counties there were, the more offices there would be to fill. Always, in every locality, is to be found an abundant force of citizens with sufficient patriotism to offer themselves as a sacrifice on that particular altar of their country. Yielding to this urgent

demand, the legislature of 1821 established seven new counties, one of them being Sangamon County, with the following boundaries:

"From the northwest corner of town 12, range 1 west of the third principal meridian, north with that meridian to the Illinois River; thence down the middle of the river to the mouth of Ballance or Negro Creek; up said creek to its head; thence through the middle of the prairie dividing the waters of the Sangamon and the Manvais Terre to the northwest corner of town 12 north, range 7 west of the third principal meridian; thence east along the north line of town 12 to place of beginning." The Ballance or Negro Creek, mentioned in the above description to the boundary lines, is Indian Creek, in the southwest part of Cass County. It is therefore seen that a small portion of Cass County omitted from Sangamon, was that part that now lies between the Indian Creek mentioned and the north line of Morgan County.

The restive, active petitioners and legislators would not permit the county boundary lines to remain long enough in one place to become known to the local inhabitants or to become a cause of territorial disputes. Two years later, to the exact day, January 31, 1823, Morgan County was created, including the present counties of Morgan, Scott and Cass. The boundary lines of the new county were as follows:

"From the northwest corner of Greene County, east to the range line between 7 & 8, west of the third principal meridian; thence northerly along the middle of the prairie dividing the waters of the Sangamon from the Mauvais Terre, Apple and Indian creeks, to the middle of Range 8; thence north to the main channel of the Sangamon; thence down to the middle of the main channel of the Illinois; thence down the Illinois to the place of beginning." The northern part of the boundary lines above given is the present boundary of Cass County, as will be noted in the official boundary lines of the county. Some mention is made in giving boundary lines of some of the counties established, of township and range lines. These occur only in county lines of late established counties, as there was no system in use of township and range in the earlier days.

BOUNDARY LINES A CAUSE OF DISPUTE.

Boundary lines great and small, of nations, states, counties, and of lands of individuals, always have been a source of dispute and trouble, oftentimes resulting seriously. The difficulties arising were formerly due, principally, to the system of describing lands by "Metes and Bounds," in universal vogue in this country until about the close of the eighteenth century, and still perhaps is to some degree in use in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and the New England states, and in a few other of the older states. In making surveys under that system, it was of course necessary to start at a given landmark and follow the proposed line according to the magnetic bearings of the compass needle, or the course of a stream; or perhaps some ancient footpath or highway. This plan could but result in endless confusion and litigation, as landmarks decay or change; and it is a well known fact that the compass needle varies and does not always point due north. In order to avoid further confusion in the government survey of land, Congress, by an act adopted May 7, 1785, provided for the use of the "Rectangular System."

RECTANGULAR SYSTEM.

All land measurements under this system are made from two principal lines, at right angles to each other, a north and south line called a principal meridian, and an east and west line called a base line. The principal meridians are accurately established and tested by astronomical observations, and each has its own base line. The intersection of these two lines is the starting point for governmental land measurements, and measuring each way from that point, at intervals of six miles, are drawn parallel lines to these principal lines. The space of territory extending north and south between the parallel meridians is called a range, and the space of territory extending east and west between the parallel lines is called a township. The squares formed by these lines crossing each other are the government townships. The townships are numbered from one consecutively north or south from the base line, and ranges are numbered from one consecutively east or west from the principal meridian, as far as these principal lines control. Had the legislature in creating county lines given more attention to this system of land measurements, and government survey, much confusion would have been avoided, and it would not have been called upon so often afterwards to correct or re-

define boundary lines. It required a special act of the general assembly to make changes or define the lines, and an inspection of the session laws of the state from 1823 to 1854 show that no less than sixteen acts were passed re-defining county boundary lines, among them one for re-defining the boundary between Morgan and Sangamon counties, and providing for a survey. The northern part of the new surveyed line, from township 17, north, is the present eastern boundary line of Cass County.

CREATION OF CASS COUNTY.

No further changes were made in area or boundary lines affecting the territory in which Cass was situated until 1837. The country had very rapidly settled up; Jacksonville was the county seat of Morgan County, and at that time was the most noted city in the state. Its people were entertaining high hopes that the state capital would be located there. The question of removal of the state capital was then being greatly agitated before the legislature. Four of Morgan County's representatives in the general assembly and the senator from this district lived at Jacksonville, as did also the governor of the state, Joseph L. Duncan. The Indian titles had all been quieted; the last of the Indian uprisings in the state had been subdued, and the Indians were fast disappearing from the Sangamon country and Illinois. For the sake of the continuity of the abstract of title, as it were, of Cass County, further reference to other historical matter will be deferred and the action upon matters affecting the passage of the Act of the General Assembly creating Cass County taken up. Petitions had been presented to the assembly by interested persons asking for the formation of a new county to be taken from the northern part of Morgan County, being all that part north of the south line of township 17, but by some shuffling of bills presented to the legislature and committed, a bill finally appeared from the committee room which provided for the new county to be called Cass, but instead of the dividing line between it and the remainder of Morgan County being the south line of the township, the line was made to run east and west in the center of the township, thus making the territory of the new county three miles narrower north and south than was expected by the friends of the new county. The bill, however, became a law on March 3, 1837. The text of the Act is as follows:

"An Act for the Formation of the County of Cass.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, That all that tract of country within the following boundaries to wit: Beginning at a point in the center of the main channel of the Illinois River, where a line running through the center of township seventeen north intersects the same, in range thirteen west of the third principal meridian, thence east with said line to the east side of Morgan county, from thence north to the center of the main channel of the Sangamon River, thence down said river to the center of the main channel of the Illinois River, thence down said river to the place of beginning, shall constitute a new county to be called the county of Cass.

Sec. 2. The county aforesaid is created upon the following conditions: The people of the county of Morgan as the same is now organized, shall meet at the several places for holding elections for representatives and senators in said county, on the third Monday of April next, and proceed to vote in the same manner of voting for representatives and senators to the General Assembly, whether the said county shall be created or not. The judges of elections in said county shall give twenty days' notice of the time and place of holding said elections by posting notices thereof in six public places in the county, and on said day shall open a poll book at each election precinct, in which they shall rule two columns, in one of which they shall set down the number of votes given for the creation of said county, and in the other column the votes given against same, and said judges shall conduct said election, and make returns to the clerk of the county commissioners court of Morgan County, in the same manner as is now provided by law in the case of elections for senators and representatives for the General Assembly, and said returns shall be opened and counted in the same manner as in such elections, and if a majority of all votes given at said election shall be in favor of the creation of said county, a certificate shall be made by the clerk of said county commissioners court, under the seal of said court, and transmitted by him to the office of the secretary of state, of the state of Illinois, to be filed in his

office as evidence of the existence of said county, which shall be entered of record at the next succeeding term of the said county commissioners court, and shall be sufficient to prove the facts therein stated, after which the said county shall be one of the counties of the state of Illinois. The clerk of the commissioners court of Morgan County shall cause a notice of said election to be published in all the newspapers published in the county of Morgan.

Sec. 3. If said county shall be created as aforesaid, the legal voters of said county shall meet on the first Monday of May next, at the several places of holding elections in said new county, and vote for the place where the county seat of said county shall be located, and the place receiving the greatest number of votes shall be the permanent seat of justice of said county, and on the first Monday of August next said county shall proceed to elect all county officers for said county, to be commissioned and qualified as in other cases.

Sec. 4. The owner or owners of the land where said county seat shall be located, shall donate and convey to said county of Cass, at least fifteen acres of land at the place where said seat shall be located, which may be disposed of in the manner the county commissioners court of said county shall deem proper, the proceeds whereof shall be applied to the erection of the courthouse and jail, and clerk's office of said county, but if the county seat aforesaid shall be located at Beardstown in said county, the corporation of said town shall, within one year from the said location, pay into the county treasury of said county, not less than ten thousand dollars to be applied in the erection of said public buildings.

Sec. 5. Said county shall vote with the county of Morgan for senators and representatives until the next apportionment, and said county shall make a part of the first judicial circuit, and so soon as said county shall be organized, the clerk of the county commissioners court of said county shall notify the judge of said circuit, and it shall be his duty to appoint a clerk and hold a court in said county at such times as said judge shall appoint. The seat of justice of said judge shall be located at Beardstown until the public buildings are erected. But if the county seat shall be located at Beardstown, and said corporation shall not pay to the treasurer of said county, said ten thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting said public buildings within one year after the location of said county seat, then the county commissioners court of said county shall locate the county seat at some other point near the center of said county, when the quantity of land mentioned in the fourth section of this act shall be denoted as therein provided.

Sec. 6. The school funds belonging to the several townships in said county, and all notes and mortgages pertaining to the same, shall be paid and delivered over to the school commissioners of said Cass County by the school commissioners of the county of Morgan, as soon as the said county shall be organized, and the commissioners of school lands shall be appointed and qualified according to law, together with all interest arising out of said money, that has not been heretofore expended for schools within that part of Morgan County now proposed to be set off into the county of Cass. This act shall take effect according to the conditions thereof from and after its passage.

Sec. 7. In case said county of Cass shall be created under the provisions of this act, then until the next apportionment of senators and representatives to the General Assembly, the said county shall be entitled to one representative to the General Assembly, and shall at the next election vote with the county of Morgan for one senator, also at every succeeding election for said senator, and the county of Morgan shall be entitled to five representatives and two senators. Approved March 3rd, 1837."

Pursuant to the law enacted by the legislature of 1837, and set out in the above quoted Act, an election was held on the third Monday of April, 1837, to determine by the votes whether the new county of Cass should be created or not. Governor Joseph L. Duncan, who signed the bill after it passed both houses of the assembly, lived at Jacksonville, in Morgan, from which was to be taken, if the voters so directed, a very large and valuable tract of land. It is wondered how the bill for the new county ever got out of the committee or passed either house against the well known influence the members from Morgan possessed. As there was some prospect, at least, of the location at Jacksonville of the state capital, it would seem reasonable that all interests of Jacksonville and Morgan County, would be directed in the direction of retaining as much territory as possible, and as many voters who, presumably



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would have local pride sufficient to cause them to vote for the locating of the seat of state government in their own county.

The legislature had, at the session of 1833, passed an act providing that when the limit of twenty years expired, during which time the capital should remain at Vandalia, the people should vote for the state capital to be at one of the following places:

"The geographical center of the state, Jacksonville, Springfield, Alton, Vandalia or Peoria." The one receiving the highest number of votes should be the permanent seat of government, but it seems that the politicians knew that the legislature would ignore that law or repeal it, and gave little attention to the voters. There was much dissatisfaction on the part of the voters living in the northern part of Morgan on account of the fact that the strip three miles wide on the south had been left within the boundaries of Morgan County. This strip contained about eighty square miles, most of it excellent prairie, and while if left with Morgan County, would make that county one of the best in the state, by depriving Cass County of that amount of good land, it reduced it to one of the smallest and weakest territorially in the state, and according to the popular estimate of the value of the lands of Cass County, as proposed to be created, after deducting the inundated lands bordering on the Illinois and Sangamon rivers, the sand ridges and bluffs by which they were skirted, and the waste and untillable lands in the interior, it was said that Cass would contain less productive land than any other county in the state. So, notwithstanding the further fact, that the north end voters were much incensed against the "political ring" at Jacksonville, and very much desired a new county, yet the vote was against the organization. The canvassing board at Jacksonville, however, when they met to canvass the returns, threw out the votes of the entire precinct of Meredosia, the southwest corner of the county, and Lucas Precinct, in the extreme northeast part of the county, which were against the creation of the new county, and thus declared the proposition carried, and so certified to the secretary of state, and the county of Cass as created by the aforementioned act, became one of the counties of Illinois.

ACT TO REMOVE STATE CAPITAL PASSED.

The legislature which passed the act creating Cass County, and at the same session, but a few days earlier, passed an act for the removal of the state capital from Vandalia to Springfield, was elected in August of the year previous, or to be exact, August 6, 1836, included some of the holdover senators, and was for mental strength and ability of its members, the most remarkable of any yet chosen in Illinois. No previous General Assembly of our state, and very few since, has comprised such an array of brainy, talented men; or as many who subsequently gained such eminence in the annals of the state and nation. In the senate were: Orville H. Browning, Cyrus Edwards, William J. Gatewood, John S. Hacker, Robert K. McLaughlin, Henry I. Mills, William Thomas, John D. Whiteside and John D. Weed; and in the house were Edward D. Baker, John Hogan, Milton Carpenter, Newton Cloud, Richard M. Cullom, father of the late United States Senator Shelby M. Cullom, John Dement, John Dougherty, Stephen A. Douglas, Jesse K. Duboise, Ninian W. Edwards, William L. D. Ewing, Augustus C. French, John J. Hardin, Abraham Lincoln, Usher F. Linder, Dr. John Logan, father of General John A. Logan, John A. McClernand, James Semple, John Moore, William A. Richardson, James H. Ralston and Robert Smith. In this list are found one president of the United States, six who later occupied seats in the United States senate, eight congressmen, three governors, three lieutenant governors, two attorney generals, five state treasurers, two state auditors, one superintendent of public instruction, and several supreme and circuit court judges. Comment is made by Dr. J. F. Snyder in one of his historical papers that "it was this same body of learned and distinguished statesmen who committed at that session, the supreme folly of exacting the famous Internal Improvement measures that in three years placed the state on the verge of bankruptcy burdened with a public debt of over $14,000,000." The results of that legislation fully justify the comment, and illustrate what effect and influence public clamor will have upon legislative bodies. History sometimes repeats itself. Morgan County, which then included Cass and Scott, had in that assembly three senators, and seven representatives, as follows: William Thomas, William O'Rear and

William Weatherford, senators, and Newton Cloud, Stephen A. Douglas, William W. Happy, John J. Hardin, Joseph Morton, Richard S. Walker and John Wyatt, representatives.

The people of the new county of Cass, though much chagriued at the loss, as they believed, by trickery and unfair dealing, of the valuable three mile strip, accepted the result philosophically aud proceeded to call au election for officers to organize the couuty government. The election was held August 7, 1837, and as there were but three election precincts, it needed but little election machinery. At Beardstown the election was held at the house of Moses Perkins. In Virginia Precinct at the house of John DeWeber, aud in Lucas or Richmond Precinct at the house of John Lucas. The election officers at Beardstown were: Thomas Beard, James Arnold and John Schaeffer, judges, and C. W. Clarke and T. W. Webb, clerks. At Virgiuia, Isaiah Paschal, William M. Clarke and James Daniels were judges, and William Blair and M. H. Beadles, clerks. Johu Taylor, Mathew Lownsbury and Robert Leeper were judges at Richmond, and Robert B. Taylor and Cyrus Wright were clerks. A list of the voters at that election is here copied aud is interesting, as these men were the first to exercise the right of franchise in Cass County. At that time the law permitted residents of the county to vote at either precinct where he might be on election day, and thus it happened that the names of some persons appear as voting in a precinct in which they did not reside.

LIST OF VOTERS.

Beardstown.—Jno. F. Bailey, Alex. King, Ben. Beasley, Christ. Shanks, Jerem. Wilson, Jordan Marshall, Jos. Britton, Geo. Bryant, Jas. King, Geo. McKay, John C. Linsley, Elizur Anderson, Edmund Ensly, Evan Jenkins, T. C. Mills, Wm. Turkymire, J. W. Crewdson, Thos. Haskins, Andr. Keltner, Ammasa Reeves, C. F. Kandage, Elisha Marshall, John Marshall, Jos. Seaman, Isham Revis, Nich. Parsons, Lewis G. Lambert, Wm. Cox, Frankl. Stewart, Sam. Hunt, Jas. Pounds, Fredy White, Landerick Kale, Nich. Rheim, Moses Derby, Jas. Benuett, Curtis Hager, Dan. Wells, Hy. P. Ross, Hy. Kemble, Chr. Boyd, Jos. Haskins, Milton Parmele, John Quail, Bernard Beist, Ben. Britton, Geo. Cowan, J. N. Jenkins, Dan. Britton, Sam. Groshong, John Kettelly, Wm. Quig, Marcus Chandler, Leander Brown, Jas. Carlick, Dan'l Boyne, Thos. Proctor, Richard Graves, Richrd. Wells, George Brown, Edw. Saunders, Adolph Shupong, G. Kuhl, 2d, Henry T. Foster, Wm. Bryant, Dave Marshall, Bluford Haines, Hy. Shaffer, Thos. Pierce, Jacob J. Brown, Jackson Stewart, Jos. Cauby, Geo. Garlick, Jas. Dickinson, Wesley Peyton, Isaac Short, Amasa Warren, Geo. Shaffer, Asa Street, Jas. Roach, Ben. Horrom, Jos. H. Clemens, Jas. Neeper, Jackson Scott, Stepheu Buck, Wm. Shuteman, Edward Salley, Demsey Boyce, Aarou Powell, Jerm. Bowen, Jas. Case, A. Philippi, P. Philippi, W. W. Gordon, Hy. Havekluft, Jac. Fisal, Johu Newman, Johu Yokes, Orin Hicks, John Wagoner, Thomas Cowan, Johu Hicks, Dav. Newman, G. A. Bonny, Jas. A. Carr, John Horrom, Zack. Bridgewater, Wm. Moore, Wm. R. Parks, John P. Dick, Joshua Morris, Wm. W. Clemmons, J. Philippi, Jas. Scott, Jas. Cook, Johu Gutliff Berger, Fred Krohe, Aug. Krohe, Fred Inkle, Louis Sudbrink, Adam Krough, Moutela Richardson, Rucy Richardson, W. Moody, Sam. Fletcher, L. H. Treadway, John Price, Reuben Alexander, J. M. Quate, Wm. Miller, Hy. Whittick, J. C. Spence, Hy. Wedeking, T. Graham, Jr., John W. Pratt, J. Arnold, Jno. Miller, Lewis Haines, Phil. Shaffer, Gottlieb Jokisch, Jn. H. Treadway, John Richardson, Chrtst'n Kuhl, John Holtman, Seymour Coffren, Wm. Holmes, Thos. C. Black, Owen Clemens, Bradford Rew, Lewis Cowan, Nich. Coteral, Juo. Cuppy, Godfrey Gullet, John C. Scott, Wm. H. McKanley, Alex. Ratcliff, Mat. McBride, John Burns, John Bridgewater, John A. Thomas, Jou. Buck, Wm. R. White, Jn. W. Auderson, Henry Collins, Hy. Rohn, Wm. Bassett, Jas. Davidson, Robert Lindsey, Wm. Cross, Jno. Wilbouru, Johu McKean, Jas. Logan, Jos. Baker, Christ. Newman, Thos. Stokes, Jasper Buck, Jas. Davis, Jas. Bell, E. R. Gilett, J. B. Pierce, Harmon Byrnes, Joshua Alexander, Jn. W. Gillis, Christ. Trone, Carlton Logan, Nich. Kelly, Dan. Riggle, Lemuel Plasters, John Bull, N. B. Thompson, Edw'd Treadway, Chs. Chandler, Peter Light, Wm. B. Gaines, Fred Krohe, Caleb Lee, Thos. Carroll, Phil. Kuhn, G. Kuhl, John Rohn, Jac. Downing, Dav. Tureman, Dav. Speuce, Moritz Halleubach, Hy. Boemler, Dave Emerich, L. H. Wilkey, Thos. J. Mosely, Joel K. Bowman, Wm. W. Gillett, Wm. W. Hemminghouse, Fred Kors, John Decker, Chs. Garland, John Brackle, Chr. Hell, Elisha Olcott, Absolom Spence, Wm. Ritchie, Hy. Miller, M. Kemper, Wm. Moore, Sam. Shaw,

Jos. McClure, Wm. Dougall, Wm. Holmes, Lewis Nolte, Wm. Clark, B. W. Schneider, Francis Rice, Aug. Knapp, Dan. Scott, Martin F. Higgins, Dudley Green, Thos. Wilbonrn, Hy. Bracker, O. Long, John Schaeffer, Dav. Jones, Jesse Ankrom, Wm. Butler, Wm. W. Bolt, G. F. Miller, Jae. Anderson, Lewis Stoner, A. Batoage, T. U. Webb, J. Blackman, Pete T. Bell, Morgan Kemper, Thos. Bryant, Otto Wells, J. W. Lippincott, Wm. Shepard, Sam. Thompson, Hy. Hendricker, Rob. Moore, Wm. Sewell, Sam. McKee, T. A. Hoffman, Reuben Hager, John Duehardt, Wm. L. Felix, John Ayres, Hammer Oatman, Thos. Sannders, A. Williams, J. B. Wilson, Thos. Payne, Wm. B. Ulside, Dan. Sheldon, John McLane, Lewis Kloker, F. Arenz, Moses Perkins, Hy. Phoebe, Butler Arnold, Isaac Plasters, Z. P. Harvey, Wm. H. Williams, Ralph Morgan, J. P. Crow, Austin Chittenden, C. W. Clark, John Cushman, J. S. Wilbonrne, Wm. Scott, Edw. Collins, John Pierson, Lewis Piper, Jno. Steele, Arn. Arenz, Peter Douglas, Hy. Kashner, Jos. W. Hardy, John McKown, H. Smith, Wm. DeHaven, C. J. Nerbnry, Hy. McKean, Thos. Beard, Dave White.

Richmond.—Mat'w Lounsberry, Wm. T. Kerick, Azariah Lewis, Gibson Carter, John Fancier, Jaeob Bixler, Oliver Logue, Aaron Wright, Standley Lockerman, Robert Nance, Mathew Lounsberry, John Leeper, Geo. Fancier, Cyrus Elmore, Henry D. Wilson, Henry Taylor, Marcus Cooper, Eaton Nance, John Pratt, Sylvester Sutton, Amos Bonny, Cyrus Wright, Obadiah Morgan, Jerry W. Davis, John Cheshire, Abner Foster, Cary Nance, Enoch Wheelock, Charles Scaggs, Riley Claxton, John Cook, Henry McHenry, Amos Diek, Jonathan Loge, Colman Gaines, Daniel Robinson, Robert Leeper, Robert B. Taylor, Willis Daniels, Robert Carter, Washington Daniels, James Hickey, Ashley Hickey, John Hillis, Thos. Lockermond, Levi Dick, David Pratt, Henry Nichols, John Wilson, Wm. Lueas, John Pryor, Henry S. Dutch, Wm. Meyers, Fredrick McDonald, Pleasant Rose, James Bonnet, Thomas Jones, John L. Witty, Alfred Daniels, John B. Thompson, James Hawthorn, H. W. Libbeen, Robert G. Gaines, James Roles, Horatio Purdy, John Roberts, Thomas Plasters, Peter Diek, Wm. Finn, Calvin Wilson, Wm. P. Morgan, Zachariah Nash, Clinton Wilson, John Johnson, Henry Dick, John Hathorn, John Davis, John Lucas, John Taylor, James B. Conner, Wm. S. Clemons, James Wing, Eli Cox, John Baldin, John B. Witty.

Virginia.—Lonis Thornberry, Wm. Graves, P. S. Onten, Benj. Corby, P. Underwood, Jr., Thos. J. Joy, Wm. B. Kirk, Jos. McDaniles, Robt. Davidson, Benediet Cameron, Zeb. Wood, Wm. Craig, L. Carpenter, Geo. Cunningham, Green H. Paschal, John McDonald, Charles Brady, W. P. Johnstone, John Carpenter, Thos. G. Howard, Green Garner, C. H. Oliver, Jas. Ross, Sr., A. Bowen, Evan Warren, Jas. Holland, John Slack, Young Phelps, L. B. Ross, Alex. Bain, John Beadles, H. H. Hall, A. S. West, Wm. Blain, Jas. Williams, Thos. Boicourt, George Shaw, Pleas. Scott, J. T. Powell, Archibald Job, B. Stribling, S. Stevens, James B. Davis, Elias Mathew, Daniel Cauby, J. M. McLean, Jos. Jump, Amos L. Benny, John Peirce, Jas. Berry, Isaiah Paschal, John DeWeber, Wm. Paton, Levi Springer, Thos. Plasters, Sr., John Glover, Perry G. Price, John Daniels, Jeremiah Northern, Felix Cameron, H. Osborne, Anderson Phelps, Jesse Spicer, Jas. Bland, John Clark, Michael Reed, Onslow Watson, Joel Home, Wm. Daniels, W. P. Finch, Thos. Lee, Joshna Price, Aaron Bonny, Ephraim Mosely, T. S. Berry, John Long, John Cunningham, L. Clark, Ezra Dutch, John Craig, Wm. Fields, Jas. Garner, Philip Cochrane, A. Elder, Wm. M. Clark, Titus Phelps, Henry Hopkins, John Robinson, J. M. Ross, Jas. Beadles, Reddick Horn, George Beggs, Chas. P. Anderson, Jas. Daniels, John Redman, Thos. Finn, L. B. Freeman, B. A. Blantin, Alex Huffman, James McDonald, John Biddlecome, M. O'Brien, M. H. Beadles.

FIRST OFFICIALS.

The necessary offieers to be elected for the purpose of forming the legal county machinery, were a probate justice of the peace, a sheriff, a coroner, recorder, surveyor, treasurer, three county commissioners whose deliberations were called a county commissioners court, and a clerk of that body, or as now designated, county clerk. Though the Democratic party was in control of the national government, yet political sentiment was pretty evenly divided at that time in this part of Illinois between that party and the Whig party. The first election for offieers in Cass County did not turn upon party lines. There was no nominating convention; each candidate announced himself and

took his chances. At the first election, when the voters whose names are above given, voted, there were several candidates for each of the required offices, as follows: for probate justice —J. S. Wilbourn, William Scott and James Berry; for county commissioner—A. Bonny, Joshua P. Crow, George F. Miller, Benjamin Stribling, Henry McKean and Henry McHenry; for sheriff—Lemon Plasters, John B. Bueb and Martin F. Higgins; for county clerk—Robert G. Gaines and John W. Pratt; for recorder—N. B. Thompson, O. M. Long, Alfred Elder, and Thomas Graham, Jr.; for surveyor—William Clark and William Holmes; for treasurer—I. C. Spence and Thomas Wilbourn; for coroner—Ephraim Rew, Jacob Anderson and Halsey Smith. The following were the successful candidates: Probate justice, John S. Wilbourn. Recorder, N. B. Thompson. Sheriff, Lemon Plasters. Treasurer, Thomas Wilbourn. County clerk, John W. Pratt. Surveyor, William Holmes. Coroner, Halsey Smith. County commissioners, Joshua P. Crow, Amos Bonny and George F. Miller.

With these sturdy pioneers at the wheels, the county of Cass started on its eventful journey. On August 14 of that same year, the county commissioners met and divided the county into six precincts named as follows: Beardstown, Monroe, Virginia, Sugar Grove, Richmond and Bowens. The first general election in the county was held one year later on August 6, 1838. Nominating conventions had come into vogue, and the Democratic party held its first convention at Vandalia, presenting a ticket to be voted at that election, with Thomas Carlin as candidate for governor. Joseph L. Duncan was not a candidate to succeed himself for the reason that by terms of the constitution, a governor was not eligible "for more than four years in a term of eight years." The election in Cass County was conducted on party lines, and the Whigs proved to be in the majority, Edwards the Whig candidate receiving 335 votes to 118 for Carlin, while William Holmes, who had the year previous been elected surveyor for Cass County, now received 208 votes as a Whig candidate for representative against 198 votes for Thomas Beard, and 114 for Henry McKean, both Democratic candidates. Thus it happened that Mr. Holmes was the first representative for the new county.

In the meantime the vote to locate the county seat had been taken the first Monday of May, 1837, as required by law creating the county of Cass, and had resulted in the selection of Beardstown for that honor. The seat of justice had already been, by said law, established at Beardstown, but some doubt as to the legality of the election on the question of the county seat having arisen, and the legislature being in special session in July of that same year, passed an additional act, or one supplementary to the original one, erecting the county, wherein it was provided that the county of Cass as designated and bounded in said original act, was declared to be one of the counties of the state, and that the county seat should be at Beardstown, provided, however the corporation of Beardstown should comply with the provisions of said act relating to the raising of the sum of ten thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting the public buildings for said county, but extending the time to one, two and three years for the payment of said sum, and further providing that the county commissioners should make their contracts for the erection of said buildings so as to make their payments thereon when the installments of said ten thousand dollars should become due. Said act further provided that the courthouse should be erected upon the public square in Beardstown. This little sentence in the act caused much dissension among the residents of Beardstown later on, and the courthouse was not built upon the public square. Thanks to the good judgment of the dissenters, and their persistence in standing by it, no public buildings of any kind were ever erected on the public square, and it has remained as it was originally intended, a public park, now beautifully ornamented with walks and splendid shade trees.

In spite of all this legislation, a peaceful and acceptable solution of the county seat question had not yet appeared, so interested parties hied themselves to the General Assembly for another act of the legislature, that panacea for all troubles, and on March 2, 1839, the legislature, by preambling the doubts, and whereasing the cause, again undertook to construe the loose and ambiguous act of March 3, 1837, creating the county of Cass. In the preamble of the last act it was noted that Beardstown had failed to comply with the provisions of either the original or second acts, concerning the erection of public buildings, and that the county commissioners had under the provisions of the original act, contracted for the erection of a courthouse at Virginia, and had located the



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county seat at that point, and followed with Section 1, of the act.

"Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in The General Assembly, That the county seat of Cass Connty shall be and remain at Virginia, and the courts of said connty shall hereafter be held at that place; and the several county officers, who are required to keep their offices at the connty seat, are reqnired to remove their respective offices, and all bonds, docnments, books and papers pertaining to the same to Virginia, on or before the first day of May next, and thereafter hold and keep their respective offices at that place, and in case one or more of said officers shall fail or refnse to comply with the provisions of this act, such officer shall forfeit his office."

The latter clause seems to have had the desired effect, and the pnblic paraphernalia was removed to Virginia. Indeed the officers would rather have moved the Illinois River to Virginia than to give np the offices. The citizens of Virginia had accepted the conditions precedent to the establishing of the county seat there, and Dr. Henry Hall had donated the fifteen acres of land as required by the original law. That law provided that the land so donated "may be disposed of in the manner the county commissioners conrt of said connty shall deem proper, and the proceeds whereof shall be applied to the erection of the courthouse and jail and clerk's office." Dr. Hall proposed to the commissioners that if they wonld reconvey the fifteen acres to him which he had donated he would bnild the conrthonse and jail. Realizing the liberality of the offer, the commissioners accepted it, and that summer a snbstantial two-story brick building was erected which accommodated the connty amply for court room and offices nntil the county seat was again removed to Beardstown some years later.

COUNTY SEAT RETURNED TO BEARDSTOWN.

The people of Beardstown and vicinity were still nursing their ill feeling towards Virginia over the loss of the connty seat, characterizing the manner in which the removal had been made as a highhanded outrage, althongh as a matter of fact the people of Virginia were not chargable with reprehensible conduct in the matter, and criticism should not have fallen upon them, bnt should have been placed npon the legislature, which enacted the measure of March 2, 1839, above referred to. Aside from any question of blame to any one the citizens of Beardstown were determined to recaptnre the prize when opportunity offered. The population of Beardstown had rapidly increased and there was then within its limits a large nnmber of splendid, energetic men, alert to every interest of the town, and active in securing everything helpful to its future progress.

An election was called and held September 4, 1843, on the question of removal of the county seat from Virginia to Beardstown. The election resulted in 453 votes being cast for removal to only 288 against removal, so Virginia lost. Beardstown citizens, although active in every other matter, seemed extremely dilatory abont the erection of public buildings for sheltering the county records they had been so successful in recovering from Virginia. The buildings were not ready until 1845. On February 8 of that year, Henry E. Dummer appeared before the connty commissioners at their session in that month at Virginia, and presented a deed to Cass County for Lot 1, in Block 31, Beardstown, on which the courthouse was built, from Thomas R. Sannders, and also a receipt from B. W. Schneider, contractor for building the courthouse at Beardstown, as well as a receipt from Thomas Beard, contractor, for the erection of the jail. They also presented a fnrther certificate from Hon. Samuel D. Lockwood, presiding judge of the Cass Connty Circuit court, of the sufficiency of the buildings. All of these papers were ordered to be recorded. Thereupon the commissoners adjourned to meet at Beardstown, on March 3, which was the first Monday of the month.

VIRGINIA THE PRESENT COUNTY SEAT.

In 1872, the question of the location of the county seat was again taken up, and an election was held with reference to this qnestion. By popular vote the seat of government was again transferred to Virginia, althongh the matter was contested through the courts, the verdict being in favor of Virginia, which continnes to hold that honor.

CHAPTER VII.

EARLY COUNTY HISTORY.

HARD TIMES—SCARCITY OF MONEY—INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT MEASURES OF 1837—SUSPENSION OF STATE BANKS—STAY AT TWO-THIRDS LAW—COUNTY WARRANTS—REVENUE MEASURES—THREE MILE STRIP—EFFORTS OF JOHN W. PRATT—LEGISLATIVE ACTION—ORIGIN OF CASS COUNTY'S NAME—GENERAL LEWIS CASS—EXTRACTS FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S SPEECH TO CONGRESS.

HARD TIMES.

Every age, generation and score or two of years, have the cry, if not actual experience, of hard times. Cass County, together with the entire state, had a period of unprecedented hard times, extending from 1837 to 1842, possibly never equaled since. The disastrous results were directly traceable to the legislation known as the Internal Improvement Measures, of the Assembly of 1837, which provided for an extensive line of railroad building, and for the vast improvement of rivers and harbors. According to Dr. J. F. Snyder's "Illinois History":

"The people prior to 1837 were prosperous, but had become dissatisfied with the slow, certain profits of legitimate, patient industry, and were infected with the phantom of quickly acquired wealth. The speediest way to attain to that end, they concluded, was to place the state on a material and financial parity with the older eastern states by constructing at once an extensive system of railroads, completing the Illinois & Michigan Canal, and removing obstructions in the principal rivers of the state that impeded their safe and expeditious navigation. Visionary demagogues proclaimed on the stump and in the newspapers the ability of the state to make all such improvements by borrowing money upon its credit, without imposing any burden upon its treasury or upon the people. The bonds of the state, they said, would sell in either home or foreign markets at enormous premiums; these premiums would easily defray all cost of the proposed improvements, and the bonds would be returned to the state and cancelled. And then, they urged, the net earnings of the railroads and canal, thus acquired, would for many years pay all ordinary expenses of the state government, thereby assuring the people from taxation. Such egregious nonsense as that seemed plausible to backwoodsmen who had never seen a railroad or canal, and they gave their unqualified assent."

In fact they did more than yield an assent. They clamored night and day for the necessary legislation to set the proposed improvements going, and thus influenced men serving the people in a representative capacity, to vote for measures which in cooler and more considerate moments, their naturally good judgment admonished them would ultimately lead to financial disaster. By 1840 the bubble burst. The state banks suspended and left a depreciated currency. The State Bank of Shawneetown collapsed with a circulation of $1,700,000, and the State Bank with $3,000,000. The people were almost destitute of an adequate circulating medium, and were compelled to resort to barter and exchange of commodities in the transaction of business. This condition was relieved somewhat by immigration here of a large number of Germans, who brought with them considerable money in specie; yet it was so difficult to obtain even silver that citizens were often unable to get their letters from the post office. Postage was not necessarily prepaid at that time, and if not prepaid it had to be paid for in silver at the delivery office. It is said that letters would sometimes remain in the office for weeks.

People were largely in debt on account of speculations engaged in when money was more plentiful, but which proved to be mere delusions. When debts matured there was nothing with which to pay them. The state had sold and hypothecated bonds until credit was fully exhausted. Interest on bonds was unpaid and state bonds depreciated until they were worth but fourteen cents on the dollar, or were wholly unsalable, and a general condition of bankruptcy ensued. Honest men could not pay their debts for the reason that they had nothing with which to pay them. The price of all products was very low; corn sold as low as six cents per bushel. The farmers had no way of getting goods from the store except upon credit, to be paid for with butter and eggs and other products of the farm, but all these fluctuated in price, even in the store exchange.

STAY LAW OR TWO-THIRDS LAW.

In this deplorable condition, the legislature sought to come to the relief of debtors, and, as often happens in such emergencies, at the expense of the creditor. One of a number of such remedial statutes was what was known as the Stay Law or Two-Thirds Law, which provided that property levied upon by virtue of execution, should be valued as in "ordinary times." The valuation was to be made by three householders summoned by the officer holding the writ, but chosen by the debtor, creditor and officer, each choosing one. The property levied upon was not to be sold unless it brought two-thirds of its valuation as placed upon it by said householders, thus making it possible to require the creditor to suffer a discount of 33 1-3 per cent, or stay collection with no provision for retaining his lien. Although this law was subsequently declared by the courts unconstitutional, yet it served its purpose and debts were rendered almost non-collectable.

WARRANTS.

Merchants and other dealers tried their hands at relief by issuing warrants or due bills which passed in trade at a discount of so much on the dollar. The county commissioners also lent a hand in aiding the people. They had a plate engraved and issued large quantities of county warrants or orders, in the similitude of one dollar bank bills. The legislature, jealous of its prerogatives, and its genius and wisdom in furnishing relief, invalidated these warrants, by an act which it was charged at the time was passed in the interests of the banks.

REVENUE MEASURES.

Notwithstanding the hard times and the general chaotic condition of finances, Cass County had its legitimate source of revenue. The county commissioners had, as one of their first official acts, passed an order that "The following kinds of property be taxed at the rate of one-half per cent: town lots, indentured or registered negro or mulatto servants, pleasure carriages, stock in trade, horses, mules and all meat cattle over and under three years old, hogs, sheep, wagons and carts." The clerk of the county was directed to give a public notice to "all persons trading in Cass County," to procure a license according to law. At the September term, 1837, of the commissioners' court, revenue receipts were increased to some extent by the issuance of a license to Spence & Foster, T. & J. Wilbourn and Parrot & Alcott, to sell goods, wares and merchandise in Beardstown. Also a similar license was given to Beesley & Schaffer to do business at Monroe. Monroe was a new town laid out the previous year near the present site of Monroe schoolhouse in the precinct of that name. A fee of $5 was received for each license. Several licenses were sold at $7 each to the purchasers, to keep a tavern. Thomas Beard was granted a license for $22 to run a ferry boat across the Illinois River for one year.

Under the tax levy made, the return of taxes for the year 1838 shows taxes collected on real estate, $356.01¼, on personal property, $76.33¾, and licenses $155.37, making a total revenue of $1,087.74, a less amount for all Cass County than is now paid by some individual citizens annually. As evidence of increased wealth and valuation at the present time, figures of valuations for 1913 are given, and the tax levy for county purposes for the year 1914. Total valuation of all kinds of property, $26,196,271.00; total taxes raised in Cass County for all purposes, $315,327.30. Total taxes assessed for 1914 were $59,940.00.

Under the Internal Improvement Act of 1837, there would be coming to Cass County a certain amount of revenue, and the county commissioners appointed John W. Pratt, agent for the county, to collect and receive the amounts due. Mr. Pratt was an excellent man of business, and was the first county clerk, in which office he continued until June 8, 1842, when he resigned to become a candidate for member of the legislature. At the election held August 1, 1842, he was elected over his opponent, Joshua P. Crow, who was one of the three county commissioners for Cass County elected at the first election held.

THREE MILE STRIP.

The citizens of Cass County, while they had accepted the results of the legislative action in establishing the county upon different lines than those set out in the petitions filed for its creation, never gave up the idea that Cass County was justly entitled to the strip of land

which came to be known in history as the "Three Mile Strip." Francis Arenz, Dr. Henry Hall, Thomas Beard, Archibald Job, Richard S. Walker and others, all of whom will be mentioned more fully in later pages, together with John W. Pratt, had worked hard for the creation of the county of Cass on original lines, and all were deeply interested in having if possible, the three mile strip added to the county. None worked harder or more strenuously than did Mr. Pratt. He was no sooner elected to the General Assembly than he began a determined fight to regain the strip, and was ably assisted by David Epler, who was a member of the legislature from Morgan County, but lived within the three mile strip, and preferred that it should go to Cass County, where, he claimed, it belonged by all right and fairness. Mr. Pratt early introduced a bill for the extension of the limits of Cass County.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION.

On February 7, 1843, Mr. Pratt made an able speech in support of his measure. He gave a detailed history of the formation of the county of Cass, and the vote of the people by which the act was adopted; showing that it would not have been carried had not the canvassing board thrown out two precincts which had voted against the creation of the county under the provisions of the act. Also he called attention to the fact that every subsequent legislature had been petitioned by the people of Cass to redress the wrong, and give them the three mile strip. Said Mr. Pratt in part:

"Mr. Speaker, I ask my friends from Morgan County if this question ought not to be settled, and if Morgan cannot well afford to settle it by giving us the territory and still remaining one of the first counties of the state, in territory, in population, and consequently in political strength; how will they force this people to stay with them against their will and in spite of their remonstrance? Are not here good grounds for legislative interference? I will not say it is right to set off a portion of the county whenever the people within its bounds petition to be set off in disregard of the remainder of the county; but I do say, when a new county has been formed with the limits so contracted as to require the heaviest assessment of taxes to defray the necessary expenses of county government; when the county from which it was detached can well afford to spare the disputed claim and afterwards have the requisite population to entitle her to four representatives on this floor, not lessening her political power; not disturbing her county seat, in fact doing no wrong to her, but rendering justice to Cass County; and when the people in the disputed territory have time and again petitioned to be separated from Morgan County and attached to Cass County; when these facts exist, it is right, it is just, it is righteous to let them; and anything short of this is downright injustice to them. Mr. Speaker, I wish to give a few figures in relation to this question. I wish to show the relative size and population of the two counties. By the state census of 1840, Morgan County contained a population of 15,414; by the marshal's return it was 19,154. No state census was taken in Cass County, and the marshal's return of its population was 2,968. The population of the 'Three Mile Strip' does not exceed 1,500. Deduct this number from the highest returns of Morgan County and she will have left a population of 17,654; and add it to Cass and she will have 4,468. But admitting the marshal's return is too high, and adopting the medium between the two census returns as correct, Morgan County will still have 16,000 population, entitling her to four representatives on this floor. So far as population is concerned then, it can be no great hardship for Morgan to relinquish this claim.

"In relation to territory, the case is equally strong. Morgan County contains 612 square miles, Cass 288. Deduct the three miles from Morgan, and she will still contain 532 square miles, and Cass 368; Morgan 132 miles more and Cass thirty-two miles less than the law of 1841 fixing the limits of counties contemplated."

With many more very cogent reasons, well expressed and forcefully presented, Mr. Pratt urged the passage of his bill, but he was unable at that term to secure his cherished desires. Nothing daunted, however, he sought election to the Assembly again at the next term and was successful, immediately beginning an effort to accomplish the detaching of the three mile strip from Morgan County, and adding it to his own county. Though it does not appear from the records that Mr. Pratt made any more extended speeches in favor of the project, yet, being better acquainted with the members and methods of legislation, in his second term he worked so effectively that on February 26,

1845, a bill was passed submitting the question of detaching the three mile strip from Morgan County and adding it to Cass County, to a vote of the people residing within the territory in question.

One reason, no doubt, which had a favorable influence upou the passage of the bill and which led Morgan County citizens to welcome the method of settlement of a perplexing question, was the fact that Morgan County people became alarmed over the possibility of losing a part of their territory iu another direction which would be more harmful than the loss of the three mile strip. Already, at the session of 1843, a bill had passed for a vote upon the establishing of two counties out of the territory comprising Morgau County, one of which was to be named Benton and the other to retain the name Morgan. The vote had been takeu and by a narrow margiu Morgan County had escaped the calamity, as the citizeus viewed it. So, while the voters of Morgan County, outside of those residing in the strip, had no voice in deciding the question, they placed no obstacles iu the way of the project carrying, and when the vote was takeu for and against attachiug the strip to Cass County, which was doue on the first Monday of May, 1845, the result showed the vote as follows:

	For	Against
Arenzville	115	5
Henry Price House	70	14
Princeton	41	35
Wm. Berry House	26	24
	246	78

Thus the majority in favor of attaching this strip to Cass County was 168. Thus ended a loug and somewhat bitter contest, and gave to Cass County nearly 57,000 acres of as excellent and fertile land as is to be fouud in all Illinois, the natural location of the most productive soil; and placed Cass County within the boundary lines it originally desired and has since maiutaiued.

ORIGIN OF NAME.

Cass County was named in houor of Lewis Cass, a statesman born in 1782, at Exeter, N. H. He was educated for the law, but discarded that profession and entered military life and in the War of 1812, rose to the rank of geueral. After peace was declared, he was appointed governor of Michigan, organized that territory, and by treaty with the Indians added 3,000,000 acres of land to the United States. He served as secretary of war under President Jackson; was also envoy extraordinary to France, where he served seven years; was nominated by the Democratic party as its candidate for the presidency in 1848, but was defeated by General Taylor, a Whig. His last public service was in the capacity of secretary of state in the cabinet of President Buchauan, and he died in 1866. He had acquired the title of general, although not regarded highly as a military leader, and indeed while he undoubtedly had a little notoriety, yet he was possessed of no particular distiuction as a military genius. When he became the nominee of his party for the presidency in 1848, against the Whig candidate, General Zachary Taylor, his frieuds tried hard to place him in the public eye as a military hero. This, as might have been expected brought out only ridicule, though of a good natured sort. Abraham Lincoln, who had been elected to Congress, where he served but one term, in making a speech on some subject, turned his attention to the politics of the day, which was the custom of congressional speakers at that time, and not entirely dispensed with yet, and referred in a humorous way to the efforts Cass' friends were making to prove him a man of war.

EXTRACT FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S SPEECH.

"By the way Mr. Speaker, did you know I am a military hero? Yes, sir, in the days of the Black Hawk War, I fought, bled and came away. Speaking of Geueral Cass' career reminds me of my own. I was not at Stillman's defeat, but I was about as near to it as Cass to Hull's surrender; and like him, I saw the place very soon afterwards. It is quite certain I did not break my sword, for I had none to break; but I bent a musket pretty badly ou one occasion. If Cass broke his sword, the idea is he broke it in desperation; but I bent the musket by accident. If Geueral Cass went in advance of me in picking whortleberries, I guess I surpassed him in charges upon the wild onions. If he saw any live, fightiug Indians, it was more than I did, but I had a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes; and though I never fainted from loss of blood, I can truly saw I was often very huugry. Mr.

Speaker, if I should ever conclude to doff whatever our Democratic friends may suppose there is of black cockade Federalism about me, and thereupon they should take me up as their candidate for the presidency, I protest they shall not make fun of me as they have of General Cass, by attempting to write me into a military hero."

This was but simple pleasantry, and was so received by Lincoln's colleagues in the national house of representatives. It must be remembered by the reader that Lincoln was a member of the Illinois legislature in 1837, and voted to honor General Cass by giving his name to a new county of this state.

General Cass was an able man, a patriotic citizen, filling the high station in public life to which he was called in an eminently satisfactory manner, but so little is known of him and so little said in general histories, that he might almost be listed with the "Forgotten Statesmen." His history is illustrative of that pathetic line from Rip Van Winkle, who, upon his return to his peaceful village home after his quiet sleep in the Catskill Mountains, finding that his former friends did not readily recognize him, said "Then are we so soon forgotten."

CHAPTER VIII.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

CONSTITUTION OF 1818—COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT—FIRST COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—NEW CONSTITUTION RATIFIED IN 1848—GOVERNOR FRENCH FIRST ELECTED IN 1846 SUCCEEDS HIMSELF—CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES—FIRST JUDGES AND ASSOCIATE JUSTICES—COUNTY COMMISSIONERS UNDER CONSTITUTION OF 1870—ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE TOWNSHIP SYSTEM—FIRST DEED ON RECORD—ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS' FIRST DEED—PIONEER LIFE IN 1821 IN CASS COUNTY—EGYPT—UNIQUE DEED—COUNTY RECORDERS—CIRCUIT CLERKS — SHERIFFS — CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS SETTLE TERMS OF OFFICE—COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' CLERKS—ASSESSORS AND TREASURERS—JOHN WILKES PRATT—EARLY BUSINESS MEN—MILLS BUILT AT BEARDSTOWN—FIRST PIANO IN THE COUNTY—SHORT BIOGRAPHIES—ARCHIBALD JOB ONE OF THE EARLIEST SETTLERS—BECAME A MAN OF PROMINENCE—GREAT IMPROVEMENTS IN COUNTY BY 1850—INDUSTRIES WELL UNDER WAY—SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES ESTABLISHED—POPULATION GREATLY INCREASED—SUBSTANTIAL PROSPERITY IN SIGHT.

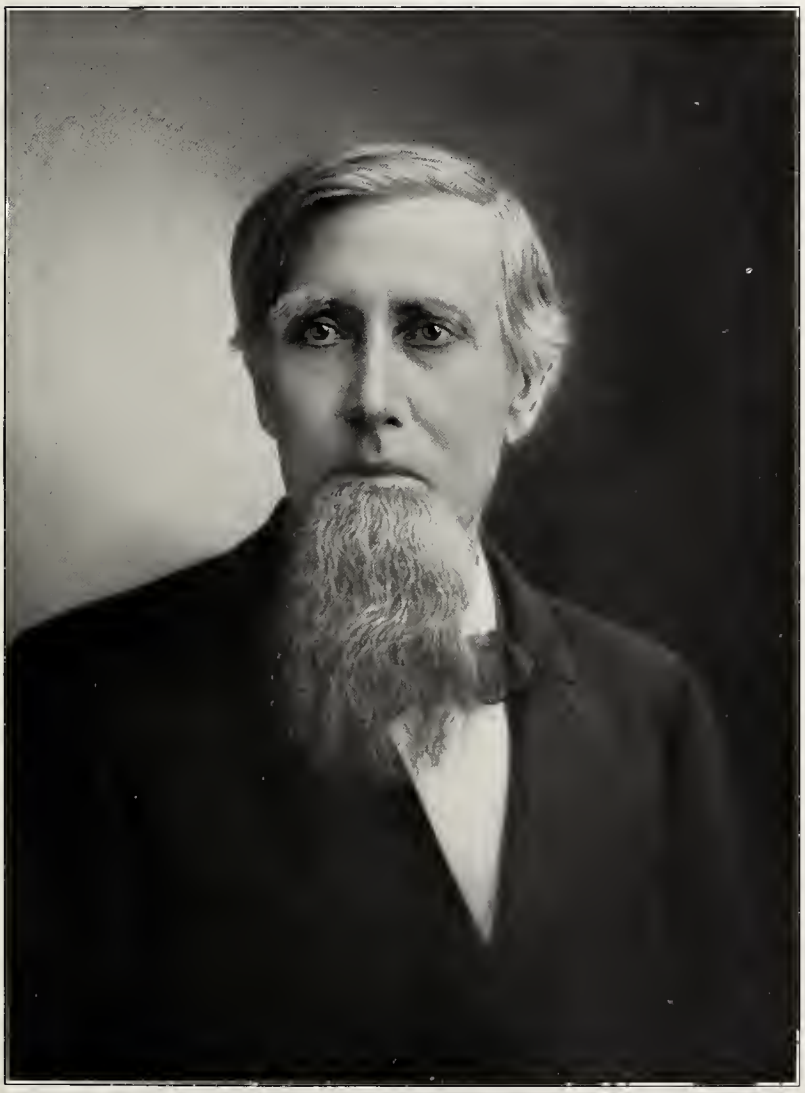
CONSTITUTION OF 1818.

The first constitution of this state was adopted at Kaskaskia, in convention, August 26, 1818. It was not definite in its provisions for county officers, but left it to the legislature to provide for the election and qualification of all except a sheriff and coroner; and by the schedule, it was provided, that three county commissioners should be elected in each county "for the purpose of transacting all county business, whose term of service, power and duties, shall be regulated by law." Pursuant to that authority, the legislature, on March 22, 1819, passed an act establishing the County Commissioners' Court, although it was expressly provided in the act that it should not have jurisdiction of criminal or civil suits, or action wherein the state or any individuals, bodies politic or corporate were parties. It was intended as a body solely for the purpose of transacting the county business. The entire business of all the counties of the state was transacted by the county commissioners during the time the first constitution was in force. Those who served as county commissioners in Cass County under the provision of the law were:

Joshua P. Crow, Amos Bonney, and George F. Miller, elected August 7, 1837; Isaac Spence, elected in 1838; John C. Scott, elected in 1840; Marcus Chandler, elected in 1840; W. J. DeHaven, elected in 1841; Robert Leeper, elected in 1842; Henry McHenry, elected in 1842; Jesse B. Pence, elected in 1843; George B. Thompson, elected in 1844; William McHenry, elected in 1845; George H. Nolte, elected in 1847; and George W. Weaver, elected in 1848. These men were elected for a term of three years each, except where they were elected to fill a vacancy. Some served more than one term.

NEW CONSTITUTION RATIFIED IN 1848.

In 1842 there was a general agitation to hold a constitutional convention, in the belief that a new constitution, with such provisions as those more particularly interested in the burdensome



Daniel Biddlecome

state debt thought might be incorporated therein, would enable the people to relieve themselves of that incnbns, but on the proposition as to whether a convention should or shonld uot be held beiug submitted to the people, it was defeated by a narrow margin. Being re-submitted in 1846, it was carried by a large majority. The conveutiou was held at the capital, in 1847, and on August 31, it was adjourned, having completed its labors and adopted the new constitution. Mr. Newtou Cloud, a delegate to that convention from the district of which Cass County formed a part, was president. The constitution was submitted to popular vote and ratified by the people March 6, 1848. There were two separate articles snbmitted, one concerning the immigration and settliug in this state of free persons of color, aud to prevent owners of slaves from bringing them into this state for the purpose of setting them free. There was an article providing for a two-mill tax, for the purpose of assistiug in extinguishing the state debt. Both articles were adopted. The constitution itself was adopted by a vote of about four to one, aud the article concerning slaves, and free colored people was adopted by about three to one. Iu Cass County the vote on the constitution was about uuanimous, beiug 635 for, to thirty-two against, but there were 109 persons who did not like the provision in regard to the colored people. At the general election, held August 7 of the same year, William Thomas of Jacksouville was elected state senator over Newtou Cloud of the same place, who had been president of the coustitutional convention, by seven votes. August C. French had been elected governor of the state in 1846, and had served but two years of his term when the uew constitution went into effect, but he was again nominated by his party aud re-elected for a full four-year term, being the first governor of Illinois to succeed himself.

The constitution of 1848, which went into effect on April 1 of that year, made many changes. It established a county conrt, and provided for the election of a county judge who should sit with two justices of the peace in each couuty for the transaction of all busiuess committed to that body by law, including the trausaction of the business matters of the county, which, under the constitution of 1818, had beeu transacted by the county commissioners. It provided, however, that the legislature might, by law, direct the electiou of two justices of the peace by the people of the connty at large, to sit with the judge in all sessions. The legislature immediately enacted a law defining all jurisdiction and duties of the county court in addition to the specific jnrisdiction given by the constitution, and provided for the election of two justices to sit with the jndge. The constitution further provided for the election of a county clerk, and that said clerk should be ex-officio recorder, with a further proviso that the General Assembly might, by law, "make the clerk of the Circuit court ex-officio recorder iu lieu of the county clerk." A law to that effect was also enacted by the General Assembly, so from that time on no recorder was elected as a distinct and separate official.

FIRST JUDGES AND ASSOCIATE JUSTICES.

In November, 1849, the first electiou of a county judge and his associates was held. From that time until that court was abolished by the constitution of 1870, the following persons held the position of judges aud associate justices: Judges: James Shaw, John A. Arenz, H. C. Havekluft, F. H. Rearick and Alexander Huffman. Associate justices: Williaiu Taylor, Thomas Plasters, Jacob Ward, Isaac Epler, Sylvester Paddock, John M. Short, William McHenry, G. W. Shawen, Jennings G. Mathis, Samuel Suith, Andrew Struble and Jephthah Plasters.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS UNDER CONSTITUTION OF 1870.

By the constitution of 1870, of which more extensive mention will be made under another chapter, this county court was abolished, and a provision made for the selection of three county commissioners to transact all county business. The law pursuant to that provision of the statute, with subsequent amendments, is still in force and the county affairs have been conducted by that board wholly independent of the county court or county judge. The county commissioners who have served Cass County under that law from its adoption to the present time are: William Campbell, John H. Melone, Robert Fielden, Luke Dunn, Robert Crum, Robert Clark, Thomas Knight, Louis C. Hackman, F. W. Gerdes, George A. Beard, Henry Garm, William Bnraker, Pius Neff, Oliver Decker, George W. Stout, F. W. Korsmeyer, Albert Krohe, George W. Chittick, Philip H. Bailey, Robert H. Arm-

strong, Henry A. Bridgeman, James R. Sligh, Walter W. Dick, John C. Brech, John L. Martin, George F. Kuhlman, Angus Taylor, Robert Louden and William Roegge. The term of office is three years, but a number of the above named men served for two terms. F. W. Gerdes died while in office, in 1884, and George A. Beard was elected to fill the vacancy. Robert H. Armstrong also died while he was a commissioner, and James R. Sligh was elected in 1903, to fill that vacancy. It therefore will be observed that the business of Cass County has been conducted by county commissioners or official equivalents ever since its organization.

ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE TOWNSHIP SYSTEM.

The constitution of 1848 provided for the management of county business by a system called "township organization," if the people of any county should by vote adopt the system. The physical organization consisted of townships laid out and named by commissioners appointed for the purpose, and had no connection with the government townships formed by the government land survey. There is a more or less elaborate system of local government and local officials, for assessing and collecting taxes, and a supervisor for each township, who all meet in a body at stated times fixed by law for the transaction of the general county business. The constitution of 1870 also contains the provision for adopting township organization, with some modifications made by the legislature in laws subsequently enacted. Several attempts have been made to change Cass County from the commission form of government to that of township organization, but always resulted in failure by adverse vote of the people, except upon the first vote taken.

No petition can be found, nor any record of any order by the county commissioners for a vote, but there is a record of the vote as canvassed, appearing under date of December 3, 1849, in the record of the county commissioners' court, which shows the vote to have been 286 for adoption, and 178 against the adoption of township organization. Under date of December 4, 1849, appears the record of the appointment of three commissioners, namely: Francis A. Arenz, James Berry, and Dr. Charles Chandler, to lay out and name the townships of the county. This order of appointment recites that the election was held in November, 1849, but the exact day is not given. On March 6, 1850, Francis A. Arenz, one of the commissioners appointed, reported to the commissioners' court that James Berry, one of the aforesaid appointees had died, and that being in doubt whether, under the law, the remaining two could legally proceed to perform the duties assigned them, they had done nothing. It does not appear from any record that anything further was ever done in the matter, but the records do show that the business of the county was continued under the commissioners' court in the same manner as before the vote on the question was taken, until 1857, when a petition by Peter Rickard and others was filed praying the board to order an election on the question. The election was ordered and held, and the proposition for township organization was defeated by a decided majority. No further attempt was made for fourteen years, and then on September 12, 1871, Keeling Berry and others filed a petition to again place the question before the people. The election was ordered and held with the same result.

Again, on September 6, 1877, Ernest Jokisch, James Buck and others filed a petition, and pursuant to the law the vote was ordered, and being taken on November 6, the same year, resulted again in defeat of the proposition. This apparently settled the question, and it remained peacefully interred for twenty-four years, when a new generation having come on, it was resurrected and put before the board of county commissioners in a petition filed by Levi Horton and others, on October 1, 1901, and once more the vote was taken with the result that the proposition to change to township organization was almost unanimously defeated, and up to 1914, has not reappeared. Thus, having so often registered their verdict one way on the question, it might well be concluded that the people of Cass County prefer the commission form of government for county affairs at least. Nevertheless the township system seems to have become most popular throughout the state for all but eighteen of the 102 counties of the state have adopted it.

As noted previously the recorder's office was changed by the constitution of 1848 from an elective office to an ex-officio one, and the legislature, pursuant to the authority granted, made the elective circuit clerk ex-officio recorder. Whether elective or otherwise, the recorder's office is always an important and interesting

one. All title deeds and papers and many miscellaneous writings are there recorded and some curiosities are found among them.

FIRST DEED ON RECORD.

The first deed that appears of record, after the organization of Cass County in 1837, is from Benjamin H. Gatton and Lucy M. Gatton, his wife, to Pinckney C. Mills, dated September 7, 1837, stating that for a consideration of $1,500, it conveys "twenty feet off of the north side of Lot five (5), Block one (1) including twenty feet on Main Street and running back to low water mark on the Illinois River, in the town of Beardstown, county of Cass and state of Illinois."

ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS' FIRST DEED.

The first deed from March and Beard, the original proprietors of the town of Beardstown, to any of the lands within the limits of the original town, was made the year before the town was laid out. It bears the date of August 21, 1828, and conveys to Charles Robertson, of the city of New Orleans, for and in consideration of $100, a tract of land, "being a fractional part of the northwest quarter of section 15, township 18, range 12, beginning at a forked birch tree on the Illinois River bank, marked as a corner, running thence down the river with the meanders thereof, so as to make 200 yards on a straight line, and from thence running out from the river at both ends of the above lines by two parallel lines, until they strike the north line of the east half of the southwest quarter of section 15, township 18, range 12, supposed to contain twelve acres."

On the same day the grantee in the above deed, Charles Robertson, gave to March and Beard, a deed of defeasance, as follows:

"I having this day bought from Enoch C. March and Thomas Beard and his wife Sarah, a piece of land on the river below the ferry of the above Beard, and having this day received from them a deed for the same; I hereby declare that it is my intention to do a public business on said land between this date and the first day of October of next year, and if I have not upon the place by that date, persons and property to effect the same, or actually upon the way to do so, I will return the above deed, and transfer back the land upon receiving the consideration given them for the same. The above public business means a steam mill, distillery, rope walk or store.

"Witness my hand and seal, this 21st day of August, 1828.

"(Signed) CHARLES ROBERTSON (Seal)"

Charles Robertson, the party to those deeds, lived for many years on an excellent farm about three miles east of the village of Arenzville. He is now deceased. In February, 1872, he wrote a letter to the Chicago Journal, which contained the following in reference to conditions at an early date in this part of Illinois.

"Fifty years ago, or in the summer of 1821, there was not a bushel of corn to be had in central Illinois. My father settled in that year twenty-three miles west of Springfield. We had to live for a time on venison, blackberries and milk, while the men were gone to Egypt, to harvest and procure breadstuffs. The land we improved was surveyed that summer, and afterwards bought from the government, the money being raised by sending beeswax down the Illinois River to St. Louis, in an Indian canoe. Dressed deer skins and tanned hides were then in use, and we made one piece of cloth out of nettles instead of flax. Cotton matured well for a decade, until the deep snow of 1830."

The Egypt mentioned in the above letter is the southern part of Illinois. Its low lying lands, so frequently overflowed by the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and the fact that there were often good crops of both corn and wheat raised there when scarcely anything was grown in the central and northern part of Illinois, and the further fact that many people were obliged to, and did go down there for their breadstuffs and assisted in harvesting the crops, came to be known as Egypt. The pseudonym was thus fastened upon southern Illinois for all time when a town, which was called Cairo, was laid out at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

In 1881, J. Henry Shaw of Beardstown sold his residence to Charles E. Wyman, and conveyed it with the following very unique deed, which is recorded in the deed records of this county. (Deed Record 40, Page 257.)

"I, J. Henry Shaw, the grantor, herein,
Who live at Beardstown the county within,
For seven hundred dollars to me paid today
By Charles E. Wyman, do sell and convey
Lot two (2), in Block forty (40), said county
and town,

Where Illinois River flows placidly down,
And warrant the title forever and aye,
Waiving homestead and mansion to both a good-bye,
And pledging this deed is valid in law,
I add here my signature, J. HENRY SHAW.
(Seal) Dated July 25, 1881."

"I, Sylvester Emmons, who live at Beardstown,
A justice of peace of fame and renown,
Of the county of Cass in Illinois state,
Do certify here that on the same date
One J. Henry Shaw to me did make known
That the deed above and name were his own,
And he stated he sealed and delivered the same
Voluntarily, freely, and never would claim,
His homestead therein, but left all alone,
Turned his face to the street and his back to his home.
(Seal) S. EMMONS, J. P.
Dated August 1, 1881."

The above is regarded as a perfectly good deed of conveyance under the laws of Illinois. The grantee, Charles E. Wyman, who was a lawyer in practice in Beardstown, accepted it as a good warranty deed. The grantor, J. Henry Shaw, was also a well known lawyer, as was also the justice of the peace, Sylvester Emmons, who took the acknowledgment. The wife of the grantor made a separate deed to convey her homestead and dower.

COUNTY RECORDERS.

The following named persons have been elected to and occupied the office of recorder: Nathaniel B. Thompson, 1837 to 1843, when Dr. Mahlon H. L. Schooley was elected. When the county seat was removed from Virginia to Beardstown, in 1845, Dr. Schooley resigned, and Levi L. Wood succeeded him and retained the office until the constitution abolished it as an elective office and provided as heretofore stated, that the clerk of the county court, or if the legislature so directed by law, the circuit clerk, should be ex-officio recorder.

CIRCUIT CLERKS.

The legislature having followed the suggestion in the constitution, immediately after the constitution of 1848 went into effect, made the circuit clerk ex-officio recorder, and since that time the following named persons have been elected circuit clerk and ex-officio recorder: Thomas R. Sanders, elected in 1848; Sylvester Emmons, elected in 1852; James Taylor, elected in 1856; Henry Phillips, elected in 1860; C. F. Diffenbacher, elected in 1868; Albert F. Arenz, elected in 1872; Thomas V. Finney, elected in 1876; Finis E. Downing, elected in 1880; Henry F. Kors, elected in 1892; Adolph F. Sielschott, elected in 1900; and Levi D. Springer, elected in 1908, who is the present incumbent. Mr. Springer is serving in his second term, and is a grandson of Levi Springer, a very early pioneer farmer and preacher so often mentioned by writers of early Illinois history.

SHERIFFS.

The men who have served Cass County as sheriffs since its organization are as follows: Lemon Plasters, elected August 7, 1837; John Savage, elected in 1841; Joseph M. McClean, elected in 1848; J. B. Fulks, elected in November, 1850; William Pitner, elected in November, 1852; James Taylor, elected in 1854; James A. Dick, elected in 1856; Francis H. Rearick, elected in 1858; James Taylor, elected in 1860; Charles E. Yeck, elected in 1862; James A. Dick, elected in 1864; Charles E. Yeck, elected in 1866; Thomas Chapman, elected in 1868; Horace Cowan, elected in 1870; George Valkmar, elected in 1872; William Epler, elected in 1874; Adolph H. Sielschott, elected in 1878; John Direen, elected in 1886; John J. Beatty, elected in 1890; Louis W. Pilger, elected in 1894; Ernest P. Widmeyer, elected in 1898; Fred E. Schweer, elected in 1902; James R. Sligh, elected in 1906; and Ernest P. Widmeyer, elected in 1910.

An amendment to the constitution of 1870, adopted in November, 1880, by a vote of the people, changed the term of sheriff from two years to four years, and made the sheriff and treasurer ineligible to re-election for a period of four years after the term for which he was elected expired. This amendment to the constitution modified Section 8 of Article 10, and by providing for an election for county judge, county clerk, sheriff and treasurer on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, A. D. 1882, operated to extend the terms of those officers one year; thus what appears as a discrepancy in the time or term of office of certain officers mentioned in these pages is accounted for by reason of the extension of time given them by



Amanda F. Biddlecome

this provision of the constitution as amended. The sheriff in counties not under township organization are also ex-officio collector of taxes. The constitution of 1870 provided for the election of a clerk of the county court, and also a county clerk; and the legislature provided by law that the county clerk should also be the clerk of the county court, and while the two offices are held by one and the same person, the offices and duties thereof are entirely distinct. Since the organization of Illinois territory into a state in 1818, there has been elected in each county a county clerk who has had charge of the official bookkeeping, and acted as clerk to the county commissioners.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' CLERKS.

The following is a list of persons who have served the county in that capacity: John W. Pratt, elected in 1837; M. H. H. Carpenter, elected in 1845; Lewis F. Sanders, elected in 1847, and re-elected in 1849; Allen J. Hill, elected in 1857; James B. Black, elected in 1873; J. F. Robinson, elected in 1882; A. M. Pendleton, elected in 1898; James Meade, elected in 1906; and Louis O. Skiles, elected in 1910. From the time the constitution of 1848 went into effect the term of office was four years, and it will be observed that several of the above named persons served more than one term, being re-elected at the expiration of the time of the official term.

ASSESSORS AND TREASURERS.

The following have filled the office of assessor and treasurer of Cass County:

Thomas W. Wilbourn was elected at the first election held in the county on August 7, 1837, but did not care to hold it after being honored by election to it, and soon thereafter resigned. On December 16, 1837, Isaac W. Overall was elected to fill the vacancy, and entered upon the duties of the office, but William W. Babb contested his election and was declared elected, and held the office until the regular election in 1838, when William H. Nelms was elected his successor. Robert Gaines, who was elected in 1839, served until 1847, and was succeeded by John Craig who served until 1851. Martin F. Higgins was elected in 1851, but died soon after his re-election in 1853, and Phineas T. Underwood was elected to fill the vacancy and served until 1857, when Frank A. Hammer was elected and served until 1859. Those who followed him were: David C. Dilley, elected in 1859, who served until 1871; Philip H. Bailey, elected in 1871, who served until 1873; John L. Cire, elected in 1873, died in 1881, while serving his second term, and the county commissioners appointed John Rahn to fill the vacancy. Mr. Rahn was elected in November, 1881, to fill out the constitutional interim of one year. Under the constitution of 1870 a treasurer cannot succeed himself. Henry Quigg served from 1882 until 1886; Adolph F. Sielschott served from 1886 until 1890; Henry Garm served from 1890 until 1894; John J. Beatty served from 1894 until 1898; Albert S. Coil served from 1898 until 1902; E. P. Widmeyer served from 1902 until 1906; F. E. Schweer served from 1906 until 1910; and J. R. Sligh served from 1910 until 1914.

Many, in fact the majority, of the officers of the county named in the foregoing pages were the pioneers or their direct descendants, who devoted their best efforts to building up the new county. They were universally men of exceptional worth and integrity, oftentimes differing in national policies, but always kind and neighborly towards one another, and ever hospitable to the strangers who were daily coming in from the older states and foreign countries.

JOHN WILKES PRATT.

John Wilkes Pratt, who has been mentioned in connection with his very efficient efforts in securing to Cass County the three mile strip, was the first county clerk of Cass County. Mr. Pratt was born December 3, 1806, in Alleghany County, Md., a son of Thomas G. and Christiana Pratt. His mother was a cousin of John Tyler, President of the United States in 1844, who succeeded to office after the death of President William Henry Harrison, he then being vice president. Thomas G. Pratt was in affluent circumstances, and a highly respected and influential citizen of his native state. He gave to his son, John W. Pratt, every opportunity for securing an education in the best schools of the day. The son being possessed of a strong intellect and an appreciative nature, readily acquired a very liberal education. He subsequently was graduated in a law course and was admitted to the bar in the state of Maryland. Entering with energy upon the practice of his chosen profes-

sion, he was rapidly rising to distinction, when, in 1823, he contracted a severe cold which soon apparently developed into pulmonary consumption. His activity in his profession, and frequent public speaking, in which line he was becoming quite famous, aggravated the incipient disease, and the symptoms became alarming. In the hope that a change to a more favorable climate might be beneficial and arrest the progress of the disease, he removed to Florida, but finding that he was not improving, he returned to his native state.

While Mr. Pratt had been struggling with the theories of property rights as elucidated by Mr. Blackstone, some of his neighbors had emigrated to the then far off Illinois country in the hope of securing some tangible property in that land from which had come fabulous accounts of its surpassing beauty and fertility. In 1826, Louden L. Case had gone to Illinois, and entered land in township 17, range 11, in what was then the northern part of Morgan County. He had written back favorable accounts of the country, and induced a relative to take the journey westward. Mr. Pratt, despairing of regaining his health in his native place, and believing that a trip overland to the West would be of great benefit to him physically if not financially, bid farewell to the scenes of his early successes and ambitions, his family and friends, and in company with Mr. Case, started on a long and tedious journey on horseback, in the year 1835, when he was but twenty-nine years old.

After an uneventful journey of some weeks, the party come to Morgan County, and made their way to Beardstown on the Illinois River. In July of the same year, Mr. Pratt purchased of Loudon L. Case a 40-acre tract of land in township 17, range 11, in sections 14 and 23. This land was near the farm of John Savage who had come from the state of New York and entered land in the same township in 1830, and had become a prosperous farmer and leading citizen of Morgan County. On November 26, 1836, Mr. Pratt was married to Emily, the eldest child of John Savage. His health had greatly improved, and after having spent a year of quiet life on a pioneer farm, he moved to Beardstown, where, on September 6, 1837, his first child was born, whom he named after the child's paternal grandfather, Thomas G. Pratt.

In the spring of that year the northern part of Morgan County had been set off and constituted the new county of Cass. Mr. Pratt had been very active in securing the result, and when the first election for county officers occurred, which was in August, 1837, he was elected county clerk. By successive elections he continued in that office until 1842, when, intending to become a candidate for member of the General Assembly, he resigned the office, and was appointed clerk pro tem until the next election which would occur in August of the same year. At that election, William H. H. Carpenter was elected his successor as county clerk, and Mr. Pratt was elected to the legislature over his opponent, Joshua P. Crow, an able man, and an excellent citizen and prominent farmer then living on the farm, now and for many years past, known as the William Campbell farm, on the State Road, west of Virginia. At that election Thomas Ford was elected governor. He had been placed on the Democratic ticket in place of Colonel Adam W. Snyder, who was the regular nominee of the party, but had died in May previous. Ex-Governor Joseph L. Duncan, who, as governor, had signed the bill creating Cass County, was the opponent of Mr. Ford, on the Whig ticket. The total vote in the county was but 689, a gain of only 193 votes in five years. The Whigs had been in the majority in the county since its organization, and although Mr. Ford was elected governor, Cass County gave his opponent, the ex-governor, a majority. The legislature convened at Springfield, December 5, 1842, and Mr. Pratt took his seat along with Newton Cloud, David Epler and William Weatherford, representatives from Morgan County. David Epler lived in the three mile strip, and was favorable towards Cass County. Then began the effort to have this strip detached from Morgan County and added to Cass County, an account of which, together with the successful activities of Mr. Pratt in that connection, are given elsewhere. Mr. Pratt was re-elected to the legislature in 1844, and success crowned his efforts in his long fight for the possession by Cass County of the hotly contested three mile strip.

A biography of Mr. Pratt by Hon. J. N. Gridley concludes as follows:

"It has been impossible to ascertain with any certainty how Mr. Pratt employed his leisure time from 1842 to 1847. He was in ill health much of the time, and not able to lead an active life. He served the people as postmaster; he assisted Governor Ford in his troubles with the Mormon people; he took an active part in all

public affairs and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. During these years he resided with his family in the house purchased for his wife by her father, John Savage, on lots 94 and 95, on the east side of the old square (Virginia) now owned by John Wilkes. In this house his three younger children were born. In the summer of 1847 he became a candidate for the office of county clerk; his opponent was Charles B. Epler of Princeton, who was a Democrat, and a young man of ability. Such was the prestige of Mr. Pratt that at the election held August 2, 1847, he carried every precinct in the county, receiving 620 votes out of 1,017 cast at the polls. While making his preparations to remove his family to Beardstown, the seat of justice of the county, he became worse, took to his bed and expired on the 7th day of October, 1847, aged forty years ten months and four days, leaving him surviving his faithful wife and four children, the eldest ten years of age and the youngest but two. It must have been a sad sight to witness the death of this useful citizen so early in life, leaving his family of helpless little ones to grow up without a father's help and protection. The family was made welcome at the home of the good father of the young widow, who erected a dwelling for her and his grandchildren, very near his own homestead, where they grew to manhood and womanhood. His two sons, inheriting the public spirit of their father, enlisted in the Union army of 1861-65, and became brave and faithful soldiers, and are now honored citizens of this community.

"Thomas G. Pratt, the eldest child, was born September 6, 1837, in Beardstown, Ill. Ellen Pratt was born in Virginia, Ill., July 13, 1839. Mary Pratt was born in Virginia, Ill., December 25, 1842; and Henry C. Pratt was born in Virginia, Ill., June 18, 1845. Ellen Pratt was married to Francis M. Treadway who was a soldier in the Civil war, and died at his residence in Virginia, Ill., in the year 1893. Mary E. married Jacob Yaple, Jr. She removed to Maryville, Mo., many years ago. Emily (Savage) Pratt died on the 7th day of December, 1873, at the home of her son, Henry C. Pratt. She and her husband were buried on the Savage farm; afterwards their remains were removed to the Monroe burial ground, located on the farm of Henry C. Pratt.

"In personal appearance Mr. Pratt was six feet in height, weight 170 pounds, with light hair and eyes; his manner quiet and dignified.

"The name of John Wilkes Pratt should ever be held in grateful remembrance for his distinguished services rendered the public in the early history of Cass County."

EARLY BUSINESS MEN.

It is impossible to find sufficient reliable data from which to record much biographical information regarding the early residents and business men of Cass County. Many came to Beardstown in its early flourishing times, prior to the building of the railroads, when the river traffic was at its height. Beardstown was until about 1856, the point on the Illinois River where all shipments of goods of every description were made for Virginia, Springfield, Petersburg and Rushville, as well as for individuals living at various isolated places throughout Sangamon, Cass, Menard and Morgan counties. A number believing Beardstown an excellent point for commercial enterprise and that it was destined to become a great city, located there, flourishing with the town for a time, and then removed to other fields, leaving little or no trace of their ancestry or themselves. Among those who were thus located were Knapp & Pogue, at one time leading merchants of Beardstown, but the firm failed, and Mr. Pogue became a justice of the peace, which office he held until his death. Mr. Knapp, his partner, returned to New Orleans, his former home. This firm had built several business houses, among them the spacious warehouse known as "The Great Western." This was a large building extending from Main street to the river, and having forty foot frontage on Main street. It was two stories in height, with a roomy attic. Knapp & Pogue also built the first flouring mill, which was erected in 1830-1.

Thomas and John Wilbourn were two other prominent early residents of whom little can now be learned. They both held official positions in the early organization of the county. Thomas Wilbourn was elected the first treasurer of the county, but soon resigned. He evidently had no taste for official life, as it does not appear from the records that he ever subsequently held an office in Cass County. His brother, John S. Wilbourn, was elected the first probate justice of the county, which place he held for two years, when he too, disappeared from public life. They together built a large flouring mill at Beardstown, which after being in use and sup-

plying the community with flour and other products of the mill for several years, burned down. Several years later Baujan & Co. erected a new mill on the same premises, and have enlarged the plant until they have under the firm name of Schultz, Banjan & Co., one of the largest and progressively prosperous milling concerns in central Illinois.

Abner and Henry T. Foster were early settlers and merchants of the county. Henry T. Foster was born in Lincoln County, Maine, February 3, 1815. His brother, Abner, was born in the same place two years later, August 2, 1817. They both came to Illinois in 1835, and engaged in merchandising. In 1836 they opened a store on Sangamon Bottom, in Richmond Precinct, about six miles east of the present site of Chandlerville, on land subsequently owned by John P. Dick. They conducted the business for two years, then sold out and returned to Beardstown, where they embarked in a milling business and merchandising for a time. Later they moved from the town and farmed. Abner Foster becoming tired of the monotony of an agricultural life, returned to Beardstown, where he died Augnst 23, 1894, having been for many years engaged in a lumber business and merchandising. In 1876 he was elected president of the Cass County Bank. Henry T. Foster died at Beardstown, April 27, 1894.

Thomas Graham was an early merchant at Beardstown, coming from Philadelphia, Pa., his native city, about 1834. He had married before coming to Cass County, and his wife brought with her a piano, said to be the first bronght to this part of the country.

There were many merchants and tradesmen, mechanics and artisans, and professional men as well as farmers, who came in a very early day just preceding and soon after the organization of Cass County. They remained steadfast in the determination to make Cass County their permanent home, and gave to the community the benefit of their energy, honesty, and integrity, exerting an uplifting influence. While all of them are worthy of special mention space forbids more than a naming of those of more or less prominence in business and public affairs.

There were: Ernest Arnoldi, a farmer; Mendall Aaron, a merchant; John J. Beatty, a hardware dealer. The latter served a term as assessor and treasurer, as well as sheriff of Cass County. James Buck was a gardener and farmer; Charles E. Burns, a carpenter; C. A. Bussman, a contractor and builder; Samuel L. Calif, a farmer; Thomas Clark, a farmer; William Duval, a farmer; Luke Dunn, a farmer. He also served two different terms as county commissioner of this county. George and William Duchardt were butchers and cattle dealers; John Dunn was a farmer; John R. Dutch, a grain dealer and merchant, was a son of Captain E. J. Dutch who came to Cass County in 1837. A sea captain, he had followed his calling for many years as a commander of different vessels. Henry DeSoller was a manufacturer of carriages and wagons at Beardstown for many years. Oliver Decker, a farmer, served one term as county commissioner. James A. Dick, a farmer, was elected and served one term as sheriff of the county from 1856 to 1858, and again elected in 1864, served until 1866. John Decker, a farmer, came from Germany in 1835. David C. Dilley, a harnessmaker by trade, was elected treasurer of the county in 1859, and held the place by subsequent elections until 1871. J. H. C. Eberwein, a merchant, came from Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, in 1837. Frederick W. Ehrhardt, a manufacturer of extracts, baking powder, etc.; Antone Greve, a cigar manufacturer; and Henry Garm, proprietor of a saw mill and lumber business, a merchant tailor, and later an ice and grain dealer, were also representative men of the early period. The last named was elected and served as county commissioner for two terms, and also served for one term as county treasurer. Others were: Lyman Hager, a farmer; John H. Hagener, a stone cutter by trade, later engaged in a lumber and grain business; John H. Harris, a banker, helped to organize the Peoples Bank, and was elected its first president. Franklin A. Hammer, a school teacher in early life, later became a farmer, and was elected treasurer of the county in 1857, and served one term, and in 1878 was chosen president of the Cass County Bank. David Henderson, a carpenter and farmer; David M. Irwin, a Virginia and Beardstown merchant; William Jockisch, a farmer and large landowner; Gothalf Jockisch and Charles Jockisch, both farmers; John Knight, farmer and banker; Jacob Lebkecher, a farmer; Alexander Lammers, a merchant; and George Kuhl, baker and grocer, and later a dry goods merchant, were also prominent in Cass County. Others belonging to this class were: Henry and William Kuhlman, farmers; Lycurgus Lee, a farmer; Christian T. Launer, a farmer; Henry Menke, a

druggist; William C. Nelte, who learned the cooper trade, but afterwards became a farmer; John F. Papmier, a jeweler; Norman Parsons, who learned and worked at the tanner trade for many years, but became a wagonmaker and blacksmith; Christian Pilger, a tailor; Anton Rink, a brewer; Henry Ruppel, a boot and shoe dealer; W. H. Rhineberger, a carpenter and builder; W. C. Raw, a merchant of Bluff Springs; Lewis F. Sanders, a merchant, who was elected county clerk in 1847 and served by successive elections until 1857, was also police magistrate of Beardstown; Samuel Shaw, a farmer, later a director in the Cass County Bank, and United States Revenue inspector for the Ninth District; Herman Philippi, a farmer; William Paschall, a farmer; Werner Steuernagal, a merchant and banker; Robert Schmoldt, a lumber dealer and proprietor of saw mills; Field Sample, a farmer, who later kept a hotel at Beardstown; Richard Tink, a farmer; David P. Treadway, a farmer; Lewis Treadway, born in Monroe Precinct, March 3, 1837, which was the day the law making the new county of Cass passed the legislature; Edward N. Treadway, a farmer; John W. Thompson, a farmer; Henry G. Unland, a merchant; John Unland, a farmer; Joseph Weaver, a contractor and builder and brick mason; Henry Witte, a farmer; David Wagner, a farmer; Frederick Wedeking a farmer; John Webb, a merchant; Henry and Ferdinand Wunhold, farmers, all of whom were residents of Beardstown or its vicinity.

Among those who came to Cass County and settled in or about Virginia were the following: William Campbell, a farmer and extensive land owner, served one term as county commissioner of this county; Edward Direen, a farmer, one of whose sons, John Direen, served one term as sheriff, and several terms as deputy sheriff of the county; Abraham Epler, who settled near Cass County line in Morgan County, had several sons who became residents of Cass County, at a very early day. David Epler was a member of the legislature from Morgan County at the time the three mile strip was taken from Morgan County and attached to Cass County. He resided on the strip and aided materially in effecting the change. William Epler, a son of John Epler, and grandson of Abraham Epler, was sheriff of Cass County from 1874 to 1876. Morison Graves was a farmer, and his brother, James M. Graves, was also a farmer, and they were the sons of Richard Graves whose name appears among those who entered land in 1828. Thomas Gatton, a farmer and merchant; Henderson F. Massey, a farmer; William Moore, a farmer; Lachlan McNeill, a farmer; William T. Melone, a farmer; Samuel H. Petefish, a farmer and later a banker; John A. Petefish, a farmer and banker; Jacob Petefish, a farmer; Henry Quigg, a farmer and director in the Centennial Bank, served one term as county treasurer; Oswell and Ignatius Skiles, farmers and later members of the Petefish, Skiles & Co. Bank; I. M. Stribling, an extensive farmer; Edward W. Turner, a farmer; Thomas Wilson, a farmer; Andrew W. Cunningham, a farmer and owner and operator of the first tan yard in Cass County; George Cunningham, a farmer; N. B. Thompson, a merchant, served from 1837 until 1842, as recorder; Charles H. Oliver, a merchant; George W. Weaver, a farmer and brick mason; James M. Beadles, a farmer; M. H. Beadles, a carpenter; Silas and Littleberry Freeman, farmers; Levi Springer, a farmer and pioneer preacher; Jacob Ward, a farmer and stock dealer; Amos West; Reddick Horn, a preacher, served as clerk of the Circuit court one term; Joshua P. Crow, a farmer, was one of the first three county commissioners, and also probate justice of the peace in 1839; Jonathan and Jacob Bergen, farmers and merchants; Halsey Smith, a farmer and first coroner of the county; Captain Jacob Yaple, a farmer; Levi and Peter Conover, farmers, all of whom are worthy a place in this history. Those who came at an earlier date and settled in other parts of the county have already been given elsewhere.

ARCHIBALD JOB.

Archibald Job, one of the earliest settlers in Cass County, came to the northern part of Morgan County in 1819, and located in Sylvan Grove, in the present Cass County, near Virginia. He was born in Maryland, in 1784. In 1821 Greene County was organized from the northern part of Madison County, with its present boundary lines. It is frequently stated in historical writings that Morgan County was formed from the northern part of Greene County, but this statement is not accurate. When Greene County was formed, an act creating it attached the unorganized territory of Madison

north of Greene to that county for judicial purposes and for that of representation in the general assembly. This fact accounts for the error, but in fact Cass County and Morgan County were never a part of Greene County.

Mr. Job was elected to represent Greene County in the legislature in 1822, and again in 1824, after Morgan County had been organized, he was elected to represent both Greene and Morgan counties. In 1826, he was elected to the state senate from the district composed of the present counties of Calhoun, Pike, Adams, Brown, Schuyler, Fulton, Morgan, Scott, Cass, Mason, Tazewell and Peoria. In 1837 the legislature had voted to remove the capital from Vandalia to Springfield, and provided for the appointment of three commissioners to build the new state house at that place. Mr. Job was appointed one of these commissioners in 1839, and with the other two supervised the construction of the state house, which has since been converted into one of the handsomest court houses in Illinois. The building was raised sufficiently to admit of the construction of a substantial basement below, but the exterior of the structure was retained in its original form. Mr. Job later in life removed from his farm to Ashland, in this county, where he lived to the ripe age of ninety years. He died in that village in 1874.

By 1850 many improvements had been made in Cass County. Agriculture and farming industries had taken a great stride forward. Beardstown had grown wonderfully, large packing houses had been built there and thousands of hogs were driven on foot across the country from very remote points, there to be butchered and the products packed and shipped by river transportation to St. Louis and other points even as far away as New Orleans. Many churches, both rural and urban, had been erected; and rural and town schools were furnished substantial buildings for the comfort and convenience of the pupils. A census had been taken in 1840 and 1845, and again in 1850. The figures for 1845 are not available, but the population in 1840, which was before the three mile strip was added, was 2,981. In 1850 it was 7,253. Altogether Cass County was fast taking its place as one of the progressive, substantial and influential counties of the state.

CHAPTER IX.

COUNTY INSTITUTIONS.

FIRST LAND OWNED BY COUNTY—DONATED BY DR. HENRY H. HALL AND WIFE—COURTHOUSE AND JAIL BUILT AT VIRGINIA—LAW AS TO IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT—COURTHOUSE AND JAIL BUILT AT BEARDSTOWN—CONCERNING LOCATION OF COUNTY SEAT—PRESENT PUBLIC BUILDINGS WELL ARRANGED FOR COUNTY BUSINESS—PROVISION MADE FOR COUNTY POOR—COUNTY FARM—PRESENT ALMSHOUSE ERECTED ABOUT 1899—AN EFFICIENT AND PRACTICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

FIRST LAND OWNED BY COUNTY.

The first real property owned by the county of Cass was a donation from Dr. Henry H. Hall, under the terms of the act of the legislature creating the County of Cass, and providing that if the county seat should be located at any other place in the county than at Beardstown, the citizens of the place where it should be so located, should donate to the county fifteen acres of land upon which the courthouse was to be erected, or to be disposed of as the county commissioners might see fit, and the proceeds expended in erecting a courthouse and jail. In May, 1837, a vote had been taken upon the question of the permanent location of the county seat, and a majority of the voters decided it should be at Beardstown, but the citizens of Beardstown, not complying with the terms of the law for the formation of the County of Cass, the commissioners of the county decided the county seat should be located at Virginia, pursuant to an alternative provision of the act. In compliance with that act, Dr. Henry H. Hall and wife, Ann H. P. Hall, made a deed of donation with warranty to fifteen acres of land in section 3, township 17, range 10, west, the center of the tract being the stake placed by the county commissioners where the "county seat or courthouse" should be located. The deed bears the date of April 2, 1838, and is recorded in Book A of Deeds, page 94. On April 4, 1838, the county commissioners' court appointed Henry H. Hall commissioner to sell and convey any real estate within certain description except the public



FIRST COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

Built in 1838. Used as a Public School Building After 1845; Slightly Remodeled in 1867 for Primary School.



SHERIFF'S RESIDENCE AND COUNTY JAIL, VIRGINIA
Built in 1876



CASS COUNTY COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA, BUILT IN 1872

sqnare on which was to be located the courthonse, and anthorized him to make any and all deeds of conveyance, and do all acts necessary to transfer title to said lands. Joshna P. Crow, Amos Bonny, and George F. Miller were then the connty eommissioners.

On April 21, 1838, Henry H. Hall and the connty commissioners entered into a contract, that, in consideration on the part of Hall that he wonld build a conrthonse and jail, he shonld have the proceeds of the sale of the lands above mentioned, which he was anthorized to sell as a commissioner under his appointment. On June 21, 1838, the gronnd was platted into 100 lots, except the public or conrthonse sqnare, which was 300 feet wide, and 450 feet long, leaving a 60-foot street on each side. The lots were sold as fast as Commissioner Hall conld find purchasers, and he soon had a number of them disposed of, and he also prepared to ereet the conrthouse. The contract for the brick work was let to George W. Weaver, the father of Captain W. H. Weaver, who is now living at Petersburg and is well known to the people of Cass County. The briek were bnrned at a point a little north of the present line of the Baltimore & Ohio Sonthwestern Railroad, opposite the north side of the old fair grounds. By the end of the summer of 1839, Dr. Hall reported to the county commissioners that the buildings were ready to be turned over. The jail had been built on another tract of gronnd, mention of which will be made later. The center of the courthouse was at the point where the commissioners had driven the stake in the center of the fifteen-acre tract, as the contract provided for, and it was a two-story building facing the south. The office rooms for the clerks and other county officers were on the ground floor, and the eourt and jury rooms were above. After the eonnty seat removal, the building was sold to the trustees of township 17, range 10, for the use of the Virginia school district, a fnll description of this transaction being given in the chapter relating to schools. At the September meeting of the county commissioners court, on September 2, 1839, the commissioners caused a reeord to be made showing that they had inspected the courthouse and jail built by Henry H. Hall under his contract with the board of commissioners; that the buildings were erected in accordanee with the contract, and that they were aecepted, and Dr. Hall was released from all fnrther responsibility. The contract entered into by Dr. Hall did not require him to build the jail on any part of the fifteen aeres, and he preferred to put it on a lot of his own, nearly a qnarter of a mile sontheast of the courthonse, on lot 94 of his addition to the original town of Virginia.

After the bnilding was erected, Dr. Hall and wife deeded the ground on which it stood to the county. Lot 94 is a large one, snrrounded by alleys, and is 180 feet sqnare. The deed, however, did not convey all the lot, but only a part described as a tract of land "on which the prison of Cass County is erected, its bonndaries being: commencing at the sontheast eorner of the criminal room and rnnning sonth 10 feet, thence west 101 feet, thence north 55 feet, thence east 101 feet, thenee sonth 16 feet to the northeast corner of the debtors' room, and including the ground on which said rooms stand. The angles are to be in the same eonrse with the lines of the lot 94." Thus it is revealed, by a provision for a debtors' room, that some persons yet clung to the barbarous idea of imprisoning persons for not paying their debts; although the eonstitution of 1818 provided that "no person shall be imprisoned for debt unless upon refusal to deliver np his estate for the benefit of his creditors in such manner as shall be prescribed by law, or in cases where there is strong presumption of frand." This identical language against imprisonment for debt is ineorporated in both succeeding constitutions, but before the people of Cass County would believe this the Supreme court of the state had to determine judicially that this section of the constitution abolished imprisonment for debt. It was well, however, to have a "criminal room," for neither the constitution nor the Supreme conrt has sueeeeded in abolishing eriminals. On Mareh 5, 1841, Dr. Hall and his wife deeded to the county another small portion of lot 94, "commencing at the northeast corner of the prison ground, and running easterly 24 feet, thence southerly 55 feet, thenee westerly 24 feet, thence northerly to place of beginning." However, there is nothing in either deseription to indicate where the prison stood. The building was a substantial one of briek, one story in height and containing four rooms. This remained on the premises until September, 1904, when, like the old Bastile of Paris, France, it was razed to the ground and nothing is left to indicate where it stood but the condition of the ground. The outlines of the foundation are

still visible, and upon inspection it is found that the building stood a little east and north of the center of lot 94. Lot 94 is east of J. N. Sinclair's residence on South Job street, and it is now owned by Mr. Sinclair. The east side of lot 94 is 101 feet east of the alley running along the westerly side, and the north walls about 44 feet south of the northerly line of the lot. In size it was 29 feet north and south, and was nearly square, but the exact width cannot be ascertained. In 1851, six years after the county seat was removed to Beardstown, the county commissioners appointed John B. Fulks a commissioner to sell the property, and on August 4 of that year he sold it at public auction to Henry H. Hall. The deed simply conveys all "right, title or interest of the County of Cass" in and to lot 94, etc., without any particular description of the tract of ground. It was purchased later by Robert Chittick, and occupied as a residence, the building having been improved to a certain extent. Mr. Chittick was a mechanic and blacksmith, who had his shop some little distance east of the old building for many years, and is well remembered by the older citizens.

The act of the legislature granting a vote upon the question of removal of the county seat from Virginia in 1842, provided that if removed by vote, then the locality to which it was to be removed should provide a suitable court and jail without expense to the county. Beardstown agreed to the proposition, and guaranteed the buildings before the vote was taken. Pursuant to the vote in favor of removal to Beardstown at the election held September 3, 1843, and to the requirements of the law, the trustees of Beardstown contracted with B. W. Schneider to build a courthouse, and with Thomas Beard, the founder of Beardstown, to build a jail. Both buildings were erected on lot 1 of block 31 of the original town of Beardstown, at the southeasterly corner of the public park. The courthouse was built on the north end and corner of the lot, and the jail at the rear end on the south, with an open space of about 20 feet between the two. At the February term, 1845, of the commissioners court, the deed to the lot was presented to the board along with a receipt from the contractors, B. W. Schneider and Thomas Beard, for payment in full for the cost of erection of the buildings, and a certificate from Judge Samuel D. Lockwood, the circuit judge for the county, of the sufficiency of the buildings. Whereupon the board ordered all the papers recorded, and adjourned the court to meet at Beardstown on the first Monday of March, 1845. The courthouse building is a two-story brick one, with a court room and jury rooms on the second floor. There are four rooms on the ground floor, with a hall through the center, from north to south, and a stairway to the second floor at the rear end of the hall. It was not a large building, but was made very substantial and convenient, and is yet in a splendid state of preservation, having been kept in excellent repair, and is now the city hall of Beardstown, in which the city offices are located, the court room being used for the council chamber. It is also used for holding the terms of the city court, inaugurated at Beardstown in 1911. The old jail is used as a city jail, and the space between the two has been enclosed and houses the fire department of the city. The famous "Duff Armstrong" trial was held in this courthouse, a description of which is given in another chapter.

CONCERNING LOCATION OF COUNTY SEAT.

The buying, selling and exchanging of the public buildings of the county has been the result of the contention over the permanent location of the county seat, therefore the history of that struggle is necessarily interwoven with the history of the public buildings. Under the law at that time it required a special act of legislature to have a vote upon the question of the removal of a county seat. On February 11, 1853, the legislature passed an act for a vote on the question of removal of the county seat, the vote to be taken the first Monday of November, 1853. The election was held and resulted in the defeat of Virginia. Again, in 1857, Dr. Samuel Christy, representative from Cass County, secured the passage of an act for a vote on the question. That election was held November 3, 1857, and it was charged that both sides of the contending forces committed stupendous frauds in securing a large vote. Beardstown succeeded in getting the greater number of ballots into the boxes, and Virginia, accepting the defeat, bided its time, which came again by act of legislature dated February 14, 1867, granting a vote to be taken April 2, 1867. The election resulted in an overwhelming majority for removal to Virginia, but trouble ensued which brought a contest in the Circuit court. The poll books of Virginia were rejected, and Beardstown retained the county seat. In the

meantime a constitutional convention was called and held and a new provision was incorporated which was more favorable for the location of county seats near the center of counties, and Virginia, being practically in the center of Cass County, thought the time had come when surely, if ever, she might recover the coveted prize. An act of legislature was passed providing the manner in which the vote under the new constitutional provision should be polled, among the provisions being one that a petition should be filed in the county court, after certain preliminaries, containing the names of signers of at least two-fifths of those who had voted at the previous presidential election. It required a great deal of labor on the part of the Viriginia people to secure that petition, but it also gave them an opportunity to canvass the question with the voters. At last the petition was finished and presented, and an election ordered for the second Tuesday of November, 1872, and the election carefully guarded and held, resulted in a majority of 128 for removal of the county seat to Virginia. Previous to the holding of this election, Virginia people, under the leadership of Jacob Dunaway, Samuel Petefish, Z. W. Gatton, Charles Crandall, Ignatius Skiles and others induced the building of a courthouse under the guise of erecting a new city hall for Virginia, and then agreeing to donate the building for a county courthouse. A contract was entered into with Jobst & Pierce, contractors of Peoria, Ill., and a very excellent two-story brick building was erected on the public square of Virginia, known on the plat as Washington Fountain Square, and divided into compartments suitable for a courthouse. The building was constructed in 1872, but was not fully equipped until after the question of the county seat location was fully determined by the Supreme court, where it had been appealed after passing through the lower courts. After a canvass of the vote upon the election and Virginia had, by the canvassing board, been declared winner, an injunction was procured preventing the removal of the records to Virginia. The injunction was watched closely, and by renewals was kept in force until along in the fall of 1874, when, by an oversight on the part of lawyers for Beardstown, it was permitted to expire, and before another could be procured, Virginia people had organized a company, which, under the command of Robert Hall, went with teams to Beardstown in the night, and after the injunction expired at midnight, loaded up the records and files of the courts and escaped with them to Virginia. This was a hazardous undertaking, with the bitterness that had been engendered by the long contest, but it was more easily accomplished by reason of the fact that the county officials who had been elected at the previous election were residents of Virginia and the east end of the county, and favorable to the removal of the county seat to Virginia. It is said they were let into the secret of the undertaking and had prepared the records and files so that they were readily loaded into the wagons which came for them, and it was not until late the next morning that it was discovered by the Beardstown people that the records and books had disappeared. This, however, did not end the matter. Beardstown secured an injunction against the officers doing business at Virginia until the case should be finally decided. On June 7, 1875, the county board entered on their records that they had received a decision of the Supreme court dissolving the injunction, and organized the board by electing William Campbell chairman, and ordered the removal of the furniture from the Beardstown courthouse to the courthouse at Virginia, located on lot 77, or Washington Fountain Square. The other commissioners were, at that time, Robert Fielden and John H. Melone.

The present courthouse at Virginia has been in use by the county ever since 1875. In 1891, E. M. Dale, under contract with the county board, built two fireproof vaults of large size, one on the east and one on the west side of the main building, with a room above each of them. The east room, below, is used for the vault for the deed records, and the Circuit court records, and the one on the west side is for the records of the County court, and those of county affairs. The east room above is used for the court library, and the one on the west is for the office of the county superintendent of schools. The jail at Virginia was built by Joseph F. Black, a pioneer resident of Cass County, and one of the best known architects and builders in central Illinois. He built the Central school building at Beardstown, and the Methodist church of that city, and the Cumberland Presbyterian, the Methodist and Christian churches of Virginia, and also the opera house of the same city, as well as many of the best and most costly residences of Virginia. The jail was built in 1876, under contract dated February 28 of that year, at a cost of $14,000. It stands on lots 112 and

113 of the original town, on W. Beardstown street, and is of brick and stone; the jail proper being of stone exclusively, while the main building is for the sheriff's residence and is a two-story brick structure, trimmed with stone, presenting an attractive appearance, although of a plain style of architecture.

PROVISION MADE FOR COUNTY POOR.

The other public or county buildings and property are those purchased and held for the care and maintenance of the poor. Prior to 1839, the method of caring for the poor was of an extremely humiliating character. When a person was cast upon the county in those days, an order was entered and the county clerk put up the paupers at public auction to the lowest bidder, that is, they were sold to the person who would take, keep and care for such paupers for the smallest sum per month. Reading the records without an explanation would result in engendering a feeling of horror at the unintentional barbarity practiced in those early days. Brutal and barbaric as it was, it was done with the best intentions on the part of those who had a disagreeable duty to perform. On June 22, 1839, there is record of a case in which two paupers, a man and woman, in which the woman was auctioned off at $3 per month, and the man at $10 per month, the two parties who agreed to take them at these sums being, according to the records, the lowest bidders.

On December 8, 1840, William Blair was allowed by the county board $85 for building a small frame house, a "substitute for a hospital for keeping a deranged woman" in the Sugar Grove District, under conditions that could not occur in Cass or any other county of the state at the present time. Great advancement has been made in methods of treatment and care for the unfortunate of the human race. Excellent homes are now provided in each county for the poor, and hospitals are built by the state for the treatment in a scientific manner of the deaf, blind, sick and demented. No insane person can be kept in an almshouse, however well and efficient the provisions for their comfort may be. There is no more "farming out" or selling of paupers. While all are not cared for in the county almshouse, the cases of those who are not, are carefully considered by the overseers of the poor, or the county boards, and such provision made for them as is deemed best for their welfare. The latest, and one of the most important efforts on the part of the people of the state through their legislators to provide for helpless children and worthy mothers, is the "mothers' pension law." In 1846 the County of Cass concluded, through its commissioners, that it would make better provision for maintaining the poor, and purchased of Rev. Reddick Horn a tract of land of 134 acres, in township 18, north, range 11, west, in sections 21, 28 and 29. Rev. Reddick Horn, the Protestant Methodist preacher before mentioned in these pages, was then clerk of the Circuit court of the county, and continued as circuit clerk until March 28, 1849. On March 5, 1846, the county bought of James Buck and wife the west one-half of the southwest one-quarter of the southeast one-quarter, and the southeast one-quarter of the southwest one-quarter of section 21, same township and range. With some slight changes reducing the amount of land to 190 acres, which the county now owns, it has held those lands ever since. Of this farm, 100 acres is of the finest fertile soil in the county, and the balance is used for pasture and for buildings and feed lots, barns, etc. There is an excellent orchard and vegetable garden, the latter supplying sufficient vegetables for all the inmates. There is a splendid herd of dairy cattle which furnishes all supplies needed in a dairy line for the home. About twenty-five inmates are cared for annually.

On July 29, 1854, the county commissioners contracted for the erection of a house to be built on the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 21, at a cost of $950, and by that fall it was ready for occupancy as an almshouse. It was a small building with six rooms, all on one floor, and served the county very well as a comfortable home for the inmates. During 1888, however, a large three-story house was erected on the same building lots, which afforded ample provision for the poor. In 1899 this house was burned in some mysterious manner, but another was immediately built. This time, however, it was deemed wiser not to erect a house higher than two stories, and place more of it on the ground floor. There are now thirty-five rooms, which contain many modern conveniences that were not in the former home. The buildings are about one-half mile north of the station of the B. & O. S. W. Railroad, in the hamlet of Bluff Springs, and are upon an elevated tract of ground from which is obtained a



JOHN M. BIERHAUS

splendid view of the Illinois River bottom lands, stretching for miles to the west and south, which is as beautiful and entrancing a scene as may be found in any part of the great, picturesque Illinois valley. John Thompson, who has been superintendent of the farm and home for fifteen years, is a very efficient man.

CHAPTER X.

EARLY INDUSTRIES OF CASS COUNTY.

FIRST GRIST MILLS—FIRST SAWMILLS—FIRST STEAM OPERATED FLOUR MILL IN COUNTY—FIRST STEAMBOAT—FERRY ESTABLISHED BY THOMAS BEARD IN 1826—EARLY SETTLERS—NEW RICHMOND—ROBINSON'S MILLS—JAMES M. ROBINSON—VIRGINIA STEAM MILLS—INTERESTING OLD DOCUMENTS—OTHER MILLS—EARLIEST TANNERY—ANDREW CUNNINGHAM—HIS NOTES OF TRAVEL PICTURE THE TIMES—CHICAGO AS A CITY ONLY AS OLD AS CASS COUNTY—EARLY MANUFACTURES—WAGONS — CHAIRS — FARM MACHINERY — STEAMBOATS—PRINCETON WOOLEN MILLS—JOHN E. HASKELL—A CHURCH ORGAN—PORK PACKING AN EXTENSIVE EARLY INDUSTRY.

FIRST GRIST MILLS.

The earliest industries requiring the use of machinery in Cass County were the grist mills. The primitive way of preparing the corn, the principal cereal used for food by the early settlers, by grating or pounding the grain on a hominy block until reduced to a coarse meal, was entirely too slow and laborious to be continued when a better way was afforded. Enterprising men early began to arrive in the county looking for a suitable place to locate a mill along the streams, where they could, by a little effort, dam the water so as to give additional power and thereby turn their simple mill wheels.

The first of these mills to be erected in Cass County, or in that part of Morgan afterwards made a part of Cass County, was in section 31, on Indian Creek, in township 17, range 11, a short distance south of where the steam flour mills of Arenzville now stand. It was built and operated by James Stuart, about the year 1821. Mr. Smart, a few years later, entered the land on which the mill stood, and in 1832 sold out to Bennet Smart, who conducted the mill for a year and then sold both land and mill to Francis Arenz, who gave additional water power by making a new dam at the bend of Indian Creek, about a half mile north. Mr. Arenz conducted the mill for several years without much financial success, and then sold to Herman Engelbach and Peter Arenz. Although the mill was a small affair simple in its construction, it was of great benefit to the needy settlers here, when it was established, for it was the nearest mill within a radius of 100 miles, the next nearer being at Cahokia Creek, on the south. On the ditch cut where the new dam was built, John Savage, who some years later was elected and served eight years as sheriff of Cass County, built a sawmill. After the best of the board timber in the immediate neighborhood was converted into lumber, Mr. Savage turned his mill into a flour mill, but made little success of it until steam power was introduced. A few years later it was abandoned and the machinery moved to a new locality up in Monroe Precinct.

In 1829 the firm of Knapp & Pogue built a steam mill near the Illinois River on land bought of March & Beard, proprietors of the town of Beardstown, which they laid out later that same year. The mill proved a success from the very first, and by 1830 its capacity was from fifty to seventy-five barrels of flour per day. About that time a distillery and sawmill were attached to the plant. A great part of the products of the plant were shipped to other markets by river boats which had, by this time, begun to ply in great numbers upon the Illinois River. The steamer Mechanic, with John S. Clark as captain, was the first steamboat ever up the Illinois, and came in the summer of 1827. There were no railroads in the state, and no mode of shipping merchandise other than by the river traffic. Beardstown soon became a noted shipping point for all the central interior portion of Illinois, west as well as east of the river. Thomas Beard had established a ferry across the Illinois River on June 5, 1826, from the Mound Village (on the present site of Beardstown) to Schuyler County, obtaining a license from the commissioners of Schuyler County, for which he paid the sum of $6 per year. The propelling power of the boat was a long pole by means of which it was pushed across the river. In 1836, when the boats began to make regular trips from St. Louis, connecting with the Ohio

River boats, Mr. Beard sent to Pittsburgh and obtained a horse power for his boat.

By 1830 emigrants were pouring into Cass County by river steamers, movers' wagons drawn by horses or oxen, on horseback and on foot. In 1833 James M. Robinson came from the state of New York, and unloaded his family and household goods in the town of New Richmond, to be. There was then nothing but the tall prairie or slough grass, and possibly a few stakes in the ground driven by the enthusiastic promoter, who had seen the Talisman steam up the Sangamon River in 1832. Mr. Robinson had thought a New Richmond would be a good seaport town for the east end of Cass Couuty, or, as it was then, Morgan County. If he was disappointed he concluded to stop there for a while at any rate, so built him a rude log cabin and made a shelter for his stock. There, in a few weeks after their arrival, was born the first son to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, and they named him Charles Chandler Robinson, in honor of Dr. Chandler, who was the atteuding physician when the child was born. Dr. Chandler had but the year previously settled at the mouth of Panther Creek, now the site of Chandlerville. In 1835 Mr. Robinson entered a 40-acre tract on the edge of Menard County, about three miles east of New Richmond, with Clary's Creek running through it. Believiug the locality an excellent place in which to erect and maintain a grist mill, Mr. Robinson, in 1836, erected what soon became the famous Robinson Mills. A sawmill was attached, and people came for many miles to have their grain ground, to purchase lumber or to have their saw logs worked up. Mr. Robinson was a practical miller, having learned his trade and worked at it several years before emigrating from New York to Illinois. A short distance from his mill he built a substantial double log house, and there resided for many years, giving strict attention to the milling busiuess. In 1846 he was elected to represent Menard County in the lower house of the state legislature, and had served one term when the coustitution of 1848 made a change in the manner of representation. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Emily Burton, at Lincoln, Ill., February 22, 1871. His son Charles, who was born at New Richmond, Ill., married a daughter of Dr. Pothicary, so long a resident of Virginia, and for many years lived on a splendid farm about five miles east of Virginia. This farm was owned for a number of years by George Cosner, and is now owned and operated by John Williamson, one of the best agriculturalists in Illinois. The old Robinson Mills have long since disappeared. Only one very familiar with the locality in an early day could point out the site. New Richmoud, or whatever little there grew to be of it, is also goue. Few people now living have even heard that there was a New Richmond in Cass Couuty.

About 1833 several mills were erected aloug the various water courses in the present territory of Cass County. One was built by William Carver ou the uorth fork of Little Indian Creek, or as it was called by some in that day "Nigger Creek." The towu of Princeton had just been laid out and a number of settlers were gathering at that point. The mill was about two miles north of east of Priuceton. The old mill dam remained for mauy years. In 1838 Dr. Heury Hall, the fouuder of Virginia, built a mill on Job's Creek, about two miles north of his new town. It was a small affair and of very limited capacity, but a great couvenieuce to the settlers, it saviug them many miles of riding and driving over difficult roads. Some time about 1845, the exact date is not ascertainable, a steam grist mill was built aud operated at Virginia. It stood on the east side of the branch which crosses Beardstown street, two blocks east of the public or Court House Square, and back about 200 yards from the street or road as it was then, on the north side. It was the experiment of Dr. M. H. Schooley aud Nelson B. Beers, who had entered into a partnership for the purpose of couducting a milliug business. Mr. Beers was a brother-iu-law of William Holmes and had come from New York state, where he had been a practical miller. Dr. Schooley had been a resident physician of Virgiuia for several years. A short time after erecting the mill an equipment was attached for sawiug lumber. The business was continued with more or less success for a number of years, but Dr. Schooley, becoming infected with the California gold fever, which had become epidemic at that time, sold out his interest to N. B. Newman. In the Illinois Observer, a paper published at Virgiuia, by A. S. Tilden, beariug date of April 13, 1849, appears the following notice:

"The co-partnership heretofore existing between Nelson B. Beers and M. H. L. Schooley in

the Virginia Steam Mills was this day dissolved by mutual consent.

"Virginia, January 20th, 1849.

"N. B. Beers,

"M. H. L. Schooley."

In the same newspaper appears the following advertisement:

"Virginia Mills are now in operation, and we are prepared to grind wheat and corn on accommodating terms. Flour and meal constantly on hand. Sawing done for 62½ cents per hundred eash, or one-half of the lumber to be retained. 600 cords of oak and hickory wood wanted, between this and the first of May next.

"Also wanted a young man of temperate and industrious habits to learn the milling business. —Beers & Newman."

Just how long this partnership continued is not known, but Mr. Beers kept an interest in the mill until 1853, when the plant was consumed by fire. Virginia was without a mill for a number of years. In 1862, Armstrong & Beasley built a mill on the west side of the same branch, and a little further north, where the remains of a later mill now stand. That mill and its business was successively traded around and operated by indifferent millers until late in the sixties, when Jacob Dunaway, an enterprising citizen, bought it, but in 1871 sold it to Martin Cosgro, an expert miller. Mr. Cosgro was a native of New York state, where he learned the millers' trade, and worked at the business in Albany, Oswego, and other New York state towns, until 1860, when he came to Peoria, Ill. There he worked in the Fort Clark and City Mills until 1871, when he came to Virginia and purchased the Virginia Steam Mills from Mr. Dunaway. He operated the plant successfully until the spring of 1885, when it was burned to the ground, nothing whatever being saved from the flames. The loss was heavy and very little insurance was carried, but the people of Virginia, realizing that the loss of the flouring mill meant a more serious loss to the town in other directions, soon generously subscribed to a fund for rebuilding the mill and by the beginning of the next year a substantial roller mill, with all modern improvements, was in operation. Mr. Cosgro continued in eontrol and managed the mill until 1893, when he sold out to H. A. Hueffner, a practical miller and excellent man of business. Mr. Hueffner began improving the process and extending his trade until he worked up a very profitable business. He resided at Virginia with his family for about ten years, then having an opportunity to purchase a milling plant at Petersburg, Ill., did so, and for a time conducted both plants. Later he sold the Virginia plant and moved to Petersburg. The business of the Virginia mill soon began to decline and it was not long after he sold, until the mill and lot on which it stood fell into the hands of real estate agents, and it became simply a trading proposition, went from bad to worse, until it stands today idle and vacant, the smokestack fallen and flattened out over the roof of the engine room, the machinery rusted and useless, the upper storerooms with the windows broken, a veritable roost for pigeons, owls and bats; grim and gaunt in the darkening shadows of the night. Haunted by the censorious spirits of the dusty millers of long ago, who ground the daily bread for the toiling villagers, but who now sleep beneath the moss-grown slabs of marble in the distant graveyard, it gives material for refleetion. Virginia has been without a flouring mill for several years and there is no present prospect of supplying the want in the near future.

One of the earliest and most important industries in Cass County, outside that of milling, was a tanyard, constructed and operated by Andrew Cunningham, a Scotchman. He came from Edinburgh in 1834 to Canada, and the next year to Cass County. His voyage over the sea and his journeys overland were interesting experiences to a person closely observant and appreciative of the conditions under which they were made. Mr. Cunningham did not ereet his tanyard immediately upon his arrival in Cass County. It took some time for him to locate a eonvenient place where he could obtain a sufficient supply of water, and be near the oak groves where he eould more readily get the neeessary bark for tanning. Acting upon the adviee of William Holmes, who had settled in and entered land in township 17, range 9, about five miles east of the present site of Virginia, Mr. Cunningham finally located on seetion 6, township 17, range 9. Of this early tanyard, James A. Cunningham, a son of Andrew W. Cunningham, gives the following aecount and deseription:

"The tanyard was in operation about 1837, or as soon thereafter as the plant could be assem-

bled and fitted together and put into operatiou. It was built on section 6, township 17, rauge 9, and as I first saw it, consisted in part of a frame buildiug of six rooms on the ground floor aud two upstairs rooms; and an outside room for footwear, aud harness, whips and saddles. Then there was the old lime house at the hill point, under the crabapple and plum trees, just set into the hill far enough to leave a driveway betweeu it and the tanyard. Oh yes, and then there was the bark shed and bark mill. The bark shed was about 40x50 feet, with the same slope roof as the slope of the hillside, and the bark mill was round and about 20 feet in diameter. The ground floors contained in part twenty-four pits 4x4½ feet. Some were larger and called the 'water hole,' where the hides were soaked and softened. The flesh was then scraped off; next put into the 'lime pit,' where the hair was loosened, and when the hair was scraped off the hides were passed on to the 'bates,' to remove all surplus. The 'bates,' oh my, it was a test of valor to stand a minute or two and sniff at the 'bates.' The skins aud heavy hides when cleaned were now ready for the tanning proper. The sheep and calf and deer skins would soon (in a month or two) be ready for use, by fall or winter. Other hides according to weight would be finished out in the winter or maybe would remain a part of the next summer in the tan liquor. (Hides are tanned by a quicker process now.) The upstairs rooms are worthy of meution. The north room, covered with clapboards not much used, might be a storeroom for hides, and I remember uow, two old ox collars, open at the bottom, and the big elk or deer horns and a few other old relics dimly remembered. The main room had a shingle roof and was lathed and plastered. It was used for the finishing room and for the storeroom, and where 'Tamas' Russell did his most artistic work. When he got done with a side of upper and harness leather it looked good. Most of the leather was sold at home, but often a lot would go to Beardstown to Chase, or Rich & Parker, or others of the long ago merchants of that town. It was quite common for buyers to come from Bath, Jacksonville and occasionally from Petersburg or Springfield. Much of the travel to Petersburg from Virginia passed here. I have heard it said that the line of travel from St. Louis and Alton, up to Fort Clark (Peoria) was by here. The Indian trail lay between the hill country to the west and the flat prairie to the east, and 'tis easy to believe how across Sugar Grove at the headwaters of Job's Creek would offer less resistance to travel than the stand near Beardstowu or the high grass and boggy pouds of the prairie ou the east. Aud that such ideal camping grouuds as the big old trees and running water, aud undulating prairie would furnish, should attract travelers if no other advantages should offer. 'Uncle Billy' Holmes happeued to be one of the hospitable settlers who entertaiued father, Andrew Cunniugham, aud said: 'Dowu there in that branch is always water, put your tauyard there,' and there it was put aud stayed until its course was run, and its usefulness was a question. The old men grew older, the young men preferred other lines, in fact the young men are gone, most of them. 'Bobby' Russell lives in the West uear the water; I'm here; the others are gone, the buildings too. The lines of travel are chauged from the line of least resistance to the lines of the owner's fields."

Audrew Cunningham was born December 17, 1806, in Bonnington, a suburb of Edinburgh, Scotland. He was a son of a well-to-do land owner of that city, and had received a fairly good education. He learned the tauner's trade, and along with it learned industrious habits and business ways. He was a close observer and frequently made notes of anything of interest that particularly attracted his attention. An excellent and interesting account of his voyage to America aud of his travels through Canada and some of the states, including Illinois, is now in the hands of his son, James Cunningham, and from it we learu that he, in company with his brother George, William Blair, Charles Sheriff and others, sailed from Grenoch on March 17, 1834, for New York in the Camillus, a sailing vessel. After encouutering a severe storm which washed overboard the cook house with the cook; assisting to quell a mutiny on board, and enduring an eight-weeks turbulent voyage, they landed at New York, May 8, 1834. Mr. Cunuingham traveled up the Hudson River and over the Erie Canal, which was just then completed, and then into Canada. There he visited many of the towns and Niagara Falls, and finally returued to the United States, and at Rochester, N. Y., worked at his trade for some months. He then took to the road again, and in company with Charles Sheriff, coucluded to visit Illinois. They took a lake steamer for Cleveland, and from there walked across to Pitts-



MRS. JOHN M. BIERHAUS

burgh, Pa., from there going by river steamer down the Ohio a short distance, then on foot across to Dayton and Springfield in Ohio. Still walking, then went back again towards the Ohio River until they reached Cincinnati. From that point they took a steamboat down the Ohio River to its mouth and up the Mississippi River to St. Louis. They had, as might be expected from such a trip, a unique experience, and Mr. Cunningham found many things of interest to write into his account of their long journey. From St. Louis they crossed into Illinois and tramped over to Edwardsville, an uninviting little village at that time, but they found a castor oil press at work there, and a wool carding machine operated by oxen on the inclined treadmill principle. Next they visited Alton on the Mississippi River, and noted that a penitentiary was being built there, and also that "it expected to become the seat of government for the state." That is, the town of Alton, not the penitentiary. The town or city of Alton was, in fact, an applicant for the location of the state capital and three years later, when the vote upon the question of removal of the capital from Vandalia was before the legislature, Alton received sixteen votes as the place for the new seat of government. From Alton the wanderers turned their steps northward and walked up to Carrolton, but reached it on Sunday, and found the town exceedingly "dry." They concluded that the people were mostly Methodists and temperance people. The weather was extremely hot and they thought walking at night would be a relief from the day travel in the hot sun, so they started for Jacksonville at dark, or rather after supper time, as it was not dark owing to a bright shining moon. They had not gone far when they encountered a rattlesnake crossing the road. They had the courage to kill it, but this incident so frightened them that they abandoned the night walk at the first house which offered them shelter. Through all their travels in the West they were struck with the picturesque scenery and great variety of landscape, and in Illinois especially they were attracted by the myriads of beautiful flowers growing in the pastures and fields and along the roadsides. They reached Jacksonville early the next morning, but not being much pleased with its appearance did not remain long, but pushed on through the prairie towards Springfield. No comment whatever is made on Springfield by Mr. Cunningham in his notes of travel, but no wonder, for it was then a sorry looking place, although it too had ambitions towards securing the seat of the state government, which were realized in 1837. The travelers had started for Peoria, but when they reached the Sangamon River, north of Springfield, they found no ferry, but Mr. Sheriff discovering a canoe on the opposite side, undertook to wade across after it. He soon found himself up to his arms in the water, and concluding that this was an excellent opportunity to wash his trousers, continued on across and returned with the canoe to paddle Mr. Cunningham across. After getting across the Sangamon without being drowned, they took a bath and then again started northward. It was not long, however, until they were overtaken by a "return chaise" going to Chicago. They took passage, and the next day arrived at Peoria, which is described by Mr. Cunningham as "a very young but thriving place." There they discovered they had been for several days, and were yet, in a district infected with cholera. The driver of the chaise became very much frightened. Mr. Cunningham speaks of a physician without giving his name, who had gained a great reputation for treating cholera, having lost only three cases out of thirty. While being delighted with the situation and beauty of scenery around Peoria, they did not deem it wise to remain, and soon resumed their journey towards Chicago. They were two days in reaching Ottawa, passing through prairies and barrens. From Ottawa to Chicago it seems they went nearly an easterly course a great portion of the way, as he says, "we were on the borders of the Grand prairie," but near Chicago they found it low and wet. Chicago was, at that time, but two years old, that is, there was a town organization in 1832, but it was not incorporated as a city until 1837, so that Chicago as a city is only as old as Cass County. Mr. Cunningham did not know its age, but records a prophecy. He says: "Chicago is a considerable of a place and has arisen entirely in these few late years. It promises well."

Mr. Cunningham made many comments on the people, their habits, the appearance of the towns and the farm lands over which he and his companion passed, the apparent fertility of the different soils, and the general prospects of the country for the future. He picked up somewhere on his trip, probably at Springfield, Ill., a copy of the Sangamon Journal, from which he copies into his book the following which he

designates "a fragment from the Sangamon Journal."

"The people of Illinois have often been accnsed by those who have never visited the state, with exaggeration in describing its advantages. The inhabitants of New England can hardly be induced to believe that a farmer can make 500 bushels of corn with twelve days' work—that the labor required on an acre of wheat when ready for the sickle and which will produce twenty to thirty-six bnshels, will not exceed one day."

Mr. Cnnningham spent the winter in Canada and northern New York, and the next summer, in company with his brother, George Cunningham, came back to Illinois. This time they came by way of Chicago, from whence they walked to Ottawa, and then, by riding in a stage coach when they conld, and by walking when they could not ride, they went on to Hennepin, where they took a steamboat on the Illinois River for Beardstown, at which place they landed on July 3, 1835. He says in passing down the river a great many eagles were seen hovering over the water and frequently they caught ducks; that they passed a place where evidently a tornado had swept throngh and across the river. "The trees were twisted and smashed like nettles struck down with a stick; it had destroyed several houses and killed a woman and a child." Beardstown "presented a most desolate appearance in consequence of the cholera being at that time prevalent." The two strangers had to walk some distance ont of town before they conld indnce anyone to permit them to stay over night on account of their having come through the town infested with the cholera. On his first trip to Illinois Mr. Cunningham did not pass throngh any part of the territory comprising the present Cass Connty, but it appears that on his second trip he had a definite point in view, the home of John De Weber, and to that place, thirteen and one-half miles in an easterly direction from Beardstown, they made their way. Virginia had not yet been laid out. One small store building on the north side of the road, which is now East Springfield street; and a story and a half dwelling house on the south side, opposite the store, which bnilding is still standing and nsed as a residence, with a few others, constitnted the place. The De Weber home was but a short distance east of Virginia. Mr. Cnnningham and his brother George soon located suitable land which they pnrchased from an earlier settler; and that same year they also entered several tracts from the government in the same neighborhood, on section 6, township 17, range 9. They were not yet throngh, however, with their journeys afoot. It appears they left some of their baggage at Chicago to be shipped to them, bnt as it had not yet arrived late in the snmmer, they concInded to return to Chicago to look after it. Walking being the only means of travel, except when they conld catch an occasional stage coach, it made little difference to them which way they went, so taking the sensible course, they started in a direct line northeast for Chicago, where they arrived within a few weeks, only to find that their baggage had been sent on as directed. Retnrning to Cass County, the fntnre home and the tannery were soon erected, and there Mr. Cunningham spent the remainder of his life. He named his home "Allendale" in honor of his wife, whose maiden name was Allen; and for more than half a centnry it was known by that name, and the older inhabitants still speak of the Cnnningham farm as Allendale. Mr. Cnnningham was a man of exemplary habits, a good citizen, well liked by his neighbors. He had abundant faith in himself, and what is eqnally as well for snccess in life, he had faith in his fellow man. On one occasion when he was abont to make a trip to Cincinnati in the interest of his tannery, his neighbors requested him to purchase a grist mill and erect it upon his premises near the yard. He did so, and when the cnstomers came for their grinding he told them to go to the mill and grind what they wished, and to leave the toll, as he did not have time to attend to it. Speaking of the matter long after the mill was in disnse, he said: "In all the years I owned the mill, only one man went away without leaving the toll. I never asked him for the pay." This incident exhibits a pleasing characteristic of the early settlers, for honesty and integrity. Mr. Cunningham spent fifty-nine years of his life in his tannery and on his farm where the yard was built. He died April 7, 1895, at his home, and was bnried in the Robinson graveyard about a mile east of his farm. At that time he was eighty-eight years three months and twenty days old, honored and respected by all who knew him. His son, James A. Cnnningham, who gave the description of the tannery incorporated in this article, was born on the farm near the tannery, and is still living there.

engaged in farming and stock raising, but the farm is greatly increased in acreage.

EARLY MANUFACTURES.

All kinds of necessary articles of farm machinery, household goods, wearing apparel and even the caskets for the dead, were manufactured in the early days in Cass County. The day of trusts and combinations had not yet arrived to smother out the small factory, and hence, scattered over the county in the various villages and towns were to be found many factories, most of them of very limited capacity, but some turning out large orders. At Beardstown, as early as 1848, Thomas Eyre had a large wagon shop. He was manufacturing wagons of all sorts used at that time, and especially was he supplying the farmers with diamond plows. In 1849, when the gold fever prevailed, and many persons were preparing for an overland trip, Mr. Eyre in a few weeks completed six wagons as a special order for those overland emigrants. He employed fourteen hands, and in the one season made and sold 200 of his diamond plows, as well as making many buggies and carriages. On the west side of the "Old Court House Square" in Virginia, about the same time, Kenneth Conover had a chair factory where he made chairs of all descriptions, common and fancy, and had a splendid trade throughout the surrounding country. Even steamboats and other vessels were built at Beardstown, when the river traffic was at its height. Captain Ebaugh had a boat yard, and Thomas Chalfant was his foreman. They constructed the first steamboat built at Beardstown. It was named the Farragut.

PRINCETON WOOLEN MILLS.

Although most families had spinning wheels and many had hand looms in their houses that spun the yarn and thread, and wove the cloth out of which the family wearing apparel was made, yet, in a very early day a few carding machines, or woolen mills, found their way into the West. One such was brought to Old Princeton when that town was staked out in northern Morgan, or a little north of the present south line of Cass County. It was introduced by Harvey Beggs, a son of Captain Charles Beggs, previously mentioned, and Charles Brady, who, not being weavers or expert mechanics, needed someone who could operate the affair. As there was no one in the West likely to be found suitable for the position, they advertised in a Boston (Mass.) newspaper for a foreman to operate the mill. This notice chanced to meet the eye of John E. Haskell, and after a short correspondence with Beggs and Brady, Mr. Haskell, then a young man twenty-two years of age, came from the far-away old Pine Tree state to the Illinois wilds and began work in the Princeton Woolen Mills. This was in the spring of 1835, and the following year he bought the interest of Mr. Beggs in the business, and returned to Maine to get the necessary money. He returned to Illinois in 1837, traveling all the long distance on a pony with a faithful Newfoundland dog as his only companion. When Mr. Haskell got back he found a new county had been created out of the north end of Morgan, but Princeton was still in the old county. He continued running the mill until 1840, when the town of Virginia had become the county seat of the new county of Cass, and as it appeared to have a bright future, Mr. Haskell moved his machinery to Virginia. There he purchased of Dr. Hall, the proprietor of the new town, lot 117, in the original town, an unusually large lot, being 180 feet square. William Clifford's ice house now stands upon this lot. A two-story building 44 feet square and an ell, was erected on the lot in which the machinery was placed; the upper floor was used for storage. The power used for propelling the machinery was a treadmill upon which oxen, cows or horses were placed to tramp on their never ending and never progressing journey, the most cruel and inhuman work ever demanded of animals, as it was an uphill walk all the time, really an endless chain of heavy cleats upon which the animals walked. Such power went out of use long ago, like many other primitive methods, the genius of man in his inventions tending to alleviate the burden of labor of both man and beast.

Mr. Haskell was an energetic man, closely attentive to business, and in 1842 had saved of his earnings enough to purchase the interest of Charles Brady in the mill, thus becoming its sole proprietor. He successfully conducted the business for many years, when, on account of newer and better methods coming into use, and being rapidly established in other nearby localities, he finally abandoned the mill. As late as 1867, it stood as a wind-blown, decaying relic

of a bygone age, when it was finally demolished and its old hardwood timbers used for other purposes. It was then that Mr. Haskell turned his attention to other business and was elected a justice of the peace for Virginia Precinct, which office he held for thirty years. His decisions were often unique, but generally conceded to be just and equitable. At thirty years of age he married Eliline Brady, the daughter of his former partner, and continued to reside at Virginia, where his family of seven children was born, four of these children dying in infancy. Charles I., the eldest of the three to grow to maturity, a former postmaster of Virginia, who was for several terms deputy sheriff of Cass County, was born in September, 1845, and still remains a resident of the county seat. John E. Haskell died at Virginia, Ill., September 30, 1876, aged sixty-four years and eight months.

A CHURCH ORGAN.

One article manufactured at Beardstown in a very early day is especially worthy of mention. In 1833 William H. Hemminghouse, a jeweler, came from the Province of Hanover, Germany, to Beardstown, in company with George and John Nolte, and John Pappmeyer, and Henry F. Kors. They all settled in Beardstown, and remained to help build up the new town. As most Germans who came to this country in that day, they were fairly well educated, and nearly all had learned some trade of handicraft. Mr. Hemminghouse soon purchased a lot and erected a building whereon he established his jewelry shop. There was no such thing as an organ in any of the churches with which to lead the singing, and the Germans being also of a religious turn of mind, had erected a church building and were doing their best to conduct public worship in the way they had been taught in their own country. Mr. Hemminghouse conceived the idea of building an organ. His musical education and his genius and proficiency as a mechanic enabled him to make a complete reed organ of which he constructed every constituent part himself. He, however, made a mistake in the material used for the bellows. He thought pigskin would be excellent material out of which to form the air generator, but when put to the test it was found to be entirely too porous. Substituting a bellows of calfskin, he had his organ ready for use, and, in fact, it was used for a number of years as the church organ of the German church to which Mr. Hemminghouse belonged.

PORK PACKING AN EXTENSIVE EARLY INDUSTRY.

The most noted industries of Beardstown, and in fact of Cass County, were the extensive pork packing establishments. Prior to the era of railroads, when the rivers were the main channels of the carrying trade, Beardstown had the largest pork trade of any western town, competing even with Cincinnati. From 40,000 to 75,000 hogs were slaughtered annually between the months of November and February. A number of firms from the East established houses at Beardstown, among them being: Houston & Company of Cincinnati, Ohio; Gano, Thomas & Talbot and Colonel McKee, of Wheeling, W. Va.; and Sydam, Sage & Company, of New York City. Among the leading business firms of Beardstown in the earlier days may be mentioned the following: Nolte & McClure, S. M. Tinsley & Company, H. F. Foster, Horace Billings, D. Kreigh & Company, John McDonald, H. Chadsey & Company, Knapp & Pogue, Bassett & Taylor, George Kuhl, Chase, Rich & Parker, George Valkmar & Company, E. J. Dutch & Bro., Thompson & Ames, J. W. Thompson & Company, and H. T. Foster & Company.

CHAPTER XI.

COURTS, BENCH AND BAR.

JUDICIAL SYSTEM UNDER CONSTITUTION OF 1818—DIVISION INTO JUDICIAL CIRCUITS—LAWS MADE AND REPEALED REGARDING JURISDICTION—INCREASE IN POPULATION MADE NECESSARY MORE CIRCUITS—PROVISION FOR SELECTION OF JUDGES—FREQUENT CHANGES IN JUDICIARY SYSTEM—ELECTION OF SUPREME JUSTICES—LAW OF 1841—REORGANIZATION OF JUDICIARY UNDER CONSTITUTION OF 1848—OFFICES CREATED BY THE LEGISLATURE—VESTING OF JUDICIAL POWERS—PRESENT JUDICIAL POWERS—FIRST COURT HELD IN CASS COUNTY—BEARDSTOWN MADE COUNTY SEAT—INTERESTING EARLY COURT DOCUMENTS—SECOND TERM CASS COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT—FIRST JURY



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VIEW IN THE RESIDENCE PORTION—CITY OF VIRGINIA



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TRIAL—FIRST GRAND JURY—GRAND JURY CASES—COUNTY SEAT REMOVED TO VIRGINIA—DISTINGUISHED JURISTS—BEARDSTOWN AGAIN BECOMES COUNTY SEAT—OPENING CIRCUIT COURT AT BEARDSTOWN—HON. DAVID WOODSON ELECTED JUDGE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT—CIRCUIT COURT CASES—NEVER A JUDICIAL EXECUTION IN CASS COUNTY—TRAVELING LAWYERS—JUDICIAL DIGNITY—A CELEBRATED TRIAL—RECITAL OF FACTS—CAMP MEETINGS—NOT ALL ATTENDANTS RELIGIOUS—HORSE RACING—LIQUOR DRINKING—QUARRELS—MAN DIES FROM INJURIES—NORRIS AND ARMSTRONG INDICTED FOR MURDER—ARMSTRONG TAKES CHANGE OF VENUE—NORRIS SENTENCED TO PENITENTIARY—ABRAHAM LINCOLN ENTERS CASE—ARMSTRONG TRIED AT BEARDSTOWN—MR. LINCOLN ACTS AS HIS ATTORNEY—CLEARS HIS CLIENT BY AN ALMANAC—CORRECTING FALSE STATEMENTS—MANY LINCOLN BIOGRAPHIES RELATE THIS TRIAL—ANOTHER ALMANAC STORY REFUTED—ASTRONOMER TESTIFIES—COMMEMORATIVE TABLET PLACED ON OLD COURTHOUSE—LIST OF CIRCUIT JUDGES—COUNTY COURT JUDGES—BEARDSTOWN CITY COURT—LIST OF STATE'S ATTORNEYS.

JUDICIAL SYSTEM UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF 1818.

Under the constitution of 1818, the first constitution of the state, the judicial power of the state was vested in one Supreme court, and such inferior courts as the General Assembly might from time to time ordain and establish. The Supreme court was to consist of a chief justice and three associate justices; but the assembly was given power to increase the number of supreme justices after the year 1824.

Justices of the Supreme court, and judges of inferior courts, were appointed by the joint ballot of both branches of the General Assembly, and commissioned by the governor, and were to hold office during good behavior or until the end of the first session of the General Assembly which should be begun and held after the first day of January, 1824. Until the expiration of that time the justices of the Supreme court were to hold circuit court in the respective counties, in manner provided by law, but after that period the supreme justices were not to hold the circuit courts unless required to do so by law. The justices of inferior courts and also justices of the Supreme court might, for reasonable cause, which would not be a sufficient ground for impeachment, be removed from office by two-thirds vote of each branch of the General Assembly; but with the express provision that no member of either house, nor any one connected with a member of either house, nor any one connected with a member by consanguinity or affinity, should be appointed to fill a vacancy caused by such removal. The justices of the Supreme court and judges of inferior courts were given power to appoint their own clerks.

DIVISION INTO JUDICIAL CIRCUITS.

A sufficient number of justices of the peace were to be appointed for each county. Under the provisions of the constitution mentioned above the state was, by the legislature, divided into four judicial circuits, within which the chief justice and the associate justices were assigned to perform circuit court duty, which they continued to do until 1824. The legislature, however, alert to exercise every prerogative which the constitution conferred upon it, or did not deny to it, immediately upon the expiration of the time limit after which it might increase the number of supreme justices, or relieve them of circuit court duty, passed an act, declaring that in addition to the justices of the Supreme court, there should be appointed by the General Assembly five circuit judges, who should continue in office during good behavior, and by the same act the state was divided into five judicial circuits, thus relieving the Supreme judges of circuit court duty. This act was passed on December 29, 1824, but only remained in force for a little over two years, for on January 4, 1827, the succeeding legislature repealed that act and again divided the state into four judicial circuits, once more requiring the supreme justices to hold the circuit courts in the respective districts. From that time on, until an act passed January 8, 1829, went into effect, the supreme justices held all the circuit courts of the state. By the act of January 8, 1829, provision was made for the appointment or election by the General Assembly of a circuit judge who should hold circuit court in a district to which he might be appointed, north of the Illinois River. Pursuant to that act a circuit judge was elected and the Fifth Judicial Circuit was created, in which the judge elect was required to preside, while the supreme justices were to continue to perform the duties of the circuit judges in the other four judicial districts.

For a period of six years the courts moved along in good order, and to the entire satisfaction of litigants who won, and to the lawyers who were successful. Two General Assemblies had met and adjourned without attacking the judicial system. Just what it was that so engrossed the attention of the legislature at those two sessions to such a degree that they neglected the opportunity of legislating judges into office and out of office, is not definitely known. The legislature of 1835, however, came up to the neglected question with avidity, and on January 8 of that year passed an act repealing the laws requiring the justices of the Supreme court to hold circuit court, and enacted a law creating the Sixth Judicial Circuit, and providing for the election by the General Assembly at that session, of five judges, in addition to the one then authorized by law, who should preside in the several circuit courts then or thereafter required to be held in the several counties of the state. Pursuant thereto the five circuit judges were elected by the legislature and the supreme justices again relieved from circuit court duties. This system continued until 1841. In the meantime, as population increased and necessity required, additional judicial circuits were created, the Seventh on February 4, 1837, and the Eighth and Ninth Judicial Circuits on February 23, 1839, and for each new circuit created an additional judge was elected.

The provision of the first state constitution which placed the selection of judges of the supreme and inferior courts in the hands of members of the legislature made it extremely difficult to separate the judicial system from party politics, and keep the selection of judges free from the influence and machinations of designing politicians. The folly of the method was early manifested; even the very first election of Supreme court justices resulted in the selection of one of the three associate justices as a political appointment, pure and simple. William P. Foster, one of the three associate justices appointed by the first legislature, was not even a lawyer, and had never given any attention to the subject of law. He, however, after receiving the appointment, evidently felt himself entirely out of place, and did not attend a single sitting of the court, nor did he consider a single opinion or case presented to the court. He was appointed October 9, 1818, and resigned July 7, 1819.

The frequent changes in the judicial system, as previously mentioned, were due almost wholly to politics and political agitation, and the personal ambition of place hunters who, in many instances, were totally unqualified for judicial position. This condition of affairs, however, was not limited to Illinois, but could be found in other states. Nor can it be truthfully said that such conditions only belonged to that period. Politics have in many instances and ages interfered with the best methods of administration of justice, and put into power men unqualified for the distinction conferred upon them. The causes of the almost revolutionary changes in the judicial system which occurred in 1841 had their origin in a scheme to change the political complexion of the Supreme court. Of the four judges of that court, the chief justice and two of the associate justices were Whigs. As they were appointed for life or good behavior, there was no way to get rid of them except through their resignation or impeachment. As the men who then occupied the supreme bench were highly capable and men of the utmost integrity, impeachment was out of the question. It was not likely that they would resign, so there was nothing else to do, to effect the desired results, but increase the number of judges, and secure their appointment from among those of a different political faith from those now presiding.

ELECTION OF SUPREME JUSTICES.

Therefore, the plan proposed and advocated with demagogic fervor, was to legislate the nine circuit judges out of office, and to provide for the election of five additional supreme justices, making nine altogether, and requiring them to hold the circuit courts. There was not the slightest reason for the change, except for ulterior motives, as no complaint whatever was made of the manner of conducting the circuit court business by the circuit justices provided by previous legislatures. However, to make the scheme more plausible and to induce the support of the more timid among the Democratic members, the provisions concerning the holding of circuit courts by the supreme justices was suggested. The proposition met with bitter opposition among the Whigs, but after a great deal of debate passed both houses, and went to the governor for his signature. Governor Carlin, with the supreme court justices acting with him as a council of revision, promptly vetoed the bill. It went back to the senate where it had

originated, and was by that body passed over the veto by a large majority, but it did not fare so well in the house, as it got by with but one majority over the necessary number to carry it over the veto. The legislature then met in joint session and completed its efforts in that direction by electing by a strict party vote the following named Democrats as supreme justices under the new law: Samuel H. Treat, Walter B. Scates, Sidney Breese, Stephen A. Douglas and Thomas Ford. Although these men were fairly good lawyers, yet only two of them remained on the bench long enough to become able jurists. They were elected February 15, 1841, and Ford resigned August 4, 1842, and Breese resigned December 19, 1842, having ten days previously been elected to the United States Senate by the legislature then in session. He had for his principal opponent Stephen A. Douglas, his associate on the bench. Douglas resigned the next year, June 28, 1843. Judge Treat remained on the bench until the new constitution of 1848 changed the entire system, and he was then elected as one of the supreme judges of the new court. He was one of the most distinguished jurists of the state and served on the bench as circuit judge, supreme judge and as a federal judge altogether forty-eight years, a longer period than any other judge in the history of Illinois.

By the law of January 11, 1841, nine judicial districts were created for the entire state, and the nine supreme judges were required to hold the circuit courts. This system prevailed until the judiciary was reorganized under the constitution of 1848.

Under the 1818 constitution the probate matters were conducted by a probate judge, for several years, and then by a probate justice of the peace. These were not constitutional offices, but were created by the legislature, under the grant of power given by the constitution. The county commissioners' court, so called by act of legislature, was not a part of the judicial system mentioned in the constitution, but was created by legislative act alone, and was for the purpose of managing the county business alone, and the court had no jurisdiction of any suits between litigants, civil or criminal, but there always has been some confusion about that court and its jurisdiction, occasioned by the fact that the constitution of 1848 created a county court, with a county judge to preside, and provision for two justices of the peace to sit with the judge in the transaction of all business, and further, they were given charge and management of the county's business, taking the place of the county commissioners' court. This system prevailed until the constitution of 1870 went into effect.

JUDICIAL POWERS.

By the terms of the constitution of 1848 the judicial powers were vested in one Supreme court and in Circuit and County courts, and justices of the peace. The Supreme court consisted of three judges, and the state was divided into three grand divisions, and at least one term annually was to be held in each of the grand divisions. There were nine Circuit court divisions, with a circuit judge elected for each division, and they were required to hold at least two sessions of court annually in each county. A radical change and one of great importance was the manner of selecting the judges. They were to be elected by vote of the people in the several divisions, except that if the legislature saw fit to do so, it might provide for the election of the three supreme judges, or one every three years after the first election, by the vote of the entire state instead of by districts, thus taking the matter of the election of judges and of creating a court system, out of the hands of the legislature, placed the courts on a more permanent basis, and during the whole time of operation under the constitution of 1848, the courts were presided over by an able corps of judges, with no fear of being legislated out of office each change of the moon.

PRESENT JUDICIAL POWERS.

By the constitution of 1870, which is now in force and effect, the judicial powers were and are vested in one Supreme court to consist of seven judges, Circuit courts, County courts and justices of the peace. The County court is made a court of record, and wholly separated from the county civil business. The legislature was granted power to provide for other courts for cities and incorporated towns. An inferior Appellate court could be created by legislature, and such was created, and there are now four appellate court districts. The judges are by law taken from among the circuit court judges. The constitution further provides that Probate courts may be established in counties of over

50,000 inhabitants, and jurisdiction of all probate matters then transferred from the couuty courts to the probate courts. Several counties of the state have probate courts, but there should be no confusion. Couuty courts are often spoken of as probate courts and the county judge is often called probate judge. This is incorrect. County courts and county judges are entirely distinct from probate courts and probate judges, having altogether a different jurisdiction, but it is true that county courts have jurisdiction of all probate matters unless a probate court is established.

When Cass County was organized, the state judicial system was operating under the law enacted in 1835, which system it will be remembered was that supreme court justices held sessions of Supreme court only, and there were a number of circuits with circuit judges elected for each circuit. The act creating Cass Couuty provided that it should be a part of the First Judicial Circuit, the judge thereof to appoint a clerk for the Circuit court and hold court at such times as he should designate.

FIRST COURT HELD IN CASS COUNTY.

The first court held in Cass County was couvened at Beardstown, November 13, 1837, in an upstairs room of a frame building on lot 5, in block 11, owned by Augustus Knapp. It was not only provided in the act creatiug the county that the county seat should be at Beardstown until the voters determiued the permanent locality, but the voters had decided at the election held in May previous that Beardstown should be the county seat of the new county. The constitution of the state provided that the judges of the various courts should appoint a clerk of the respective courts, and when the court uet Judge Jesse B. Thomas, who held the first term, appointed N. B. Thompson clerk of the Circuit court. Mr. Thompson had been elected recorder for the county at the election held the previous August. Jesse B. Thomas, Jr., was a nephew of Hon. Jesse B. Thomas, who was presideut of the first State Constitutional Convention, and one of the first two United States senators elected from Illinois. Judge Thomas was commissioned circuit judge of the First Judicial Circuit, July 20, 1837, and resigned in 1839. The court was formally opened by Lemon Plasters, sheriff-elect of the new county, but this session of the court only lasted two days. No trials were had, owing to the fact that prior to the couvening of court there was no sheriff or other officer qualified to summon a jury, either grand or petit, or traverse, as the petit jury was then called.

INTERESTING EARLY COURT DOCUMENTS.

The principal business of the court was the qualifying of the new county officers, approving their bonds, etc. The bond of the circuit clerk was in the sum of $2,000, and was made to the governor of the state. The bond of the sheriff was for $1,000, and run to the people. It is interesting, however, to note that one of the first written documents considered, and ordered of record, was the declaration of Herman Lippert, an alien born, seeking naturalization as a citizen of the United States of America. From this declaration, which is subscribed and sworn to by Herman Lippert, before the circuit clerk, we learu that Mr. Lippert was about forty-three years of age, having been born in the towu of Eichelheim, on October 17, 1794 A. D.; that he belonged to the German nation, and owed allegiance to the government of Hesse-Darmstadt. He further stated that he emigrated from Bremen on March 3, 1834 A. D., and landed at the city of New Orleans about June 3 of the same year. On the same day Charles Coerper, a native of Messenheim, Hesse-Darmstadt, also filed a similar declaration. Although the name of the vessel in which these emigrants came is uot mentioned in their declaration as is required uuder the present law of naturalizations, yet it is evident they both came in the same ship, for each states that he sailed from Bremen on March 14, 1834 A. D., and landed at New Orleans, La., about June 3, 1834. Charles Coerper was about thirty six years old, having been born in the town of Messenheim, above uentioned, on December 22, 1801. Fifteen other persons filed declarations for naturalization at the same term of court. They were as follows: Henrich Schmidt, Henry Menke, Augustus Theodore Menke, John Luechke, Henry Havekluft, Heury W. Lubben, Christian Frederich Krohe, August Edward Vogel, John Jeremiah Altman, John Adolph Krohe, John Henry Rohn, John B. Bueb, Pompeus Phillippi, and Alexander Phillipi.

The court evidently did not believe in wasting time as at the close of the first day, court was adjourned to seven o'clock next morniug, a pretty early hour for the middle of November.



CHARLES BLUME

The record, however, shows nothing done on the second, which proved to be the last day of the term, except the entering on the records of applications for naturalizations as mentioned above, and the court adjourned, *sine die*. The second term of the Cass County Circuit Court convened at Beardstown, May 21, 1838. The clerk of the court entered on the record, "present, Hon. Jesse B. Thomas, Jr., judge," but while the "Jr." is added to Judge Thomas' name in several places by the clerk, yet in any of the signatures on the records of the judge himself, the "Jr." does not appear.

Twenty-nine cases were disposed of the first day of court; one of them being a trial by jury, and as this was the first jury trial in the county, may be rightly considered of some interest. The case was entitled "The people vs. James Berry," but was a civil case. It involved the matter of damages accruing by reason of opening a new road, appealed from a justice of the peace. The jury was composed of the following named persons: John Ayers, William Nelms, Robert Lindsey, Thomas Wiggins, Alexander Culberson, Jesse B. Pierce, Stephen D. Lee, Daniel Schaeffer, Reuben Hager, Lanus Carr, Isaac Plasters and Amos Dick. The jury assessed the damages at $25.85, and the court gave judgment accordingly, and further adjudged that the county of Cass should pay the costs and the amount of the judgment to the claimant before proceeding to open the road.

FIRST GRAND JURY.

The first grand jury impaneled in Cass County was summoned for this term of court, and was composed of the following named persons: Thomas Wilbour, foreman; Isaac Spence, Augustus Knapp, William Shoopman, Benjamin Stribling, John Daniels, Phineus Underwood, James H. Blackman, Alexander Hoffman, Robert Gaines, Ephraim Mosely, John Robeson, Elijah Carver, John P. Dick, William McAuley, Marcus Chandler, Henry L. Ingalls, Jeremiah Bowen, Jeremiah Northern, Henry Hopkins, John McDonald and Amos Hager.

FIRST JURY TRIAL.

The grand jury had business at the first term also. They found thirty indictments, two for selling liquor illegally, one for murder, and twenty-seven for gaming and keeping a gaming house. The jury was evidently no respecter of persons, for among those indicted for gaming was a high official of the court and county. Some few stood trial and were found guilty and paid a fine, others pleaded guilty and also paid a fine, with costs. The indictment for murder was against Nathan alias Nathaniel Graves, for the killing of a Mr. Fowle. A public sale was in progress near a small general store kept by Joseph McLane, about the present site of Philadelphia. Mr. Fowle and Alexander Beard, one of the very early settlers in that part of the county, were sitting outside the store on a log, engaged in a friendly conversation, when Graves rode up on horseback, and without speaking a word drew a pistol and shot Fowle dead. Most of the men at the gathering were at a little distance giving atttention to the sale, and did not realize what had happened. Those who were near were so astonished that they made no move toward apprehending Graves, who, it appears, was well known in the county. He immediately dashed down the road. At the time Graves came up, Richard McDonald, also a well known citizen of the neighborhood rode up, but from an opposite direction, and witnessed the whole tragedy. He called to the men to arrest Graves, and rode after him. When Graves saw he was being rapidly overtaken, and could not escape without disposing of McDonald, he turned, dismounted and drew a knife. Mr. McDonald, however, was no coward, and he grappled with Graves, defending himself against the knife as well as he could, catching Graves by the throat, and struggled with him until severely wounded. Help arrived, Graves was overpowered and placed under arrest. He was taken to Beardstown and placed in the calaboose, as the county jail had not yet been erected. Precaution, however, was taken to have Graves guarded. After the indictment was returned into court, Graves moved for a change of venue, which was allowed, and the case was sent to Greene County. The principal witnesses, Alexander Beard, Joseph McLane, Richard McDonald and Zebedee Wood were placed under recognizance in the sum of $1,000 to appear at the July term of the Greene County Circuit Court. The case never came to trial, as Graves, after he was taken to Greene County, broke jail and made his escape to Kentucky, his former home. He was lost sight of for years, but it was told that he died near his old home, of natural causes.

COUNTY SEAT MOVED TO VIRGINIA.

There is no record of any further Circuit court in Cass County until May, 1839. In the meantime the county seat had been moved to Virginia. The county commissioners claimed that under the failure of Beardstown to comply with the terms of the act locating the county seat at Beardstown, and having contracted with Dr. Hall for the erection of a courthouse and jail at Virginia, which buildings were reported as completed and ready for occupancy, the official records were ordered removed to that place. The removal was delayed until the act of legislature of March 2, 1839, mentioned in another chapter, fixed as a penalty for failure to comply with the requirements of the act, a forfeiture of office of any county officers so failing or refusing to remove the records, etc., to Virginia. The May term, 1839, was convened at Virginia and presided over by Judge William Thomas, who had succeeded Judge Jesse B. Thomas, who had resigned in February of that year.

Judge William Thomas, although bearing the same name as his predecessor, does not appear to be related to him. He resided at Jacksonville, at the time he was chosen judge of the First Judicial District, and afterwards became senator from the district composed of Cass and Morgan and other counties, and although he was a good lawyer and judge, yet he became most distinguished because of the services he rendered as a legislator from this district. The October term, 1839, was held by Judge Samuel H. Treat, and this was the only term of court in Cass County to be held by Judge Treat during his forty-eight years on the bench in Illinois. Judge William Thomas held the remaining terms until the change made by the law of 1841, legislating all circuit judges out of office and requiring the supreme judges to hold the circuit courts. Judge Samuel D. Lockwood, one of the ablest judges on the supreme bench, was assigned to the first district, and so held the Circuit court in Cass County until the change in the system introduced by the terms of the constitution of 1848. The last day of the Circuit court in Virginia, before another change in the county seat, was held October 8, 1844.

OPENING OF CIRCUIT COURT AT BEARDSTOWN.

The Circuit court was opened at Beardstown, which had again become the county seat, in the new courthouse, in May, 1845, and Judge Lockwood continued to hold the court from term to term until the change of the system in 1848. The new constitution having been adopted by vote of the people, and having gone into effect April 1, 1848, the supreme judges ceased to hold the Circuit courts, but Cass County still belonged to the First Judicial Circuit, and Judge David Woodson was elected judge of that district. The election was held on the first Monday of December, 1848. The first term of the year had been changed from May to March, and was held by Judge William A. Minshall of the Fifth Circuit, at the request of Judge Woodson. The October term, 1849, and the May term, 1850, were held by the regular judge of the district, Hon. D. M. Woodson. In 1850, the legislature changed the October term to November, which term was again held by Judge Minshall, at the request of Judge Woodson, and he also held the May term, 1851. It appears that Judge Minshall had also been requested to hold the November term of 1852, for upon the records of that term is the following entry:

"November term, A. D. 1852. First day, judge did not appear."

"Second day. On Tuesday the second day of November, the second day of the term, the parties litigant, jurors, witnesses, and officers of the court waited the arrival of the judge until four o'clock P. M., and the said judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit not appearing the court stands adjourned by due course of law until the next term thereof."

The cases tried at the Circuit court during those days were the usual and ordinary cases of attachment, replevin, case and assumpsit, and chancery cases of foreclosure, partitions, and such other cases as pertain to the chancery side of the court, with now and then a criminal case of more or less interest, according to the nature of the crime and the standing of the defendants. At no time before or since then in the history of Cass County has there been a judicial execution of any person convicted of murder. There were a number of local lawyers at Virginia and Beardstown, but it was the day of traveling lawyers. They usually followed the court from county to county, traveling on horseback, or by stage coach or oftentimes in the old fashioned, high seated buggy drawn by a single horse. Every term of court in Cass County found some of the more noted lawyers of central Illinois in attendance, from Springfield, Quincy, Jackson-

ville, Peoria and Pekin. The first week of court was usually a busy time in the town where court was being held. There was no short cause calender in those days, and no setting of the docket ahead of convening of court, so litigants, witnesses, jurors, grand and petit, lawyers, and the idle curious, gathered in great numbers, and made a rich harvest for the hotels and boarding houses.

JUDICIAL DIGNITY.

Many anecdotes are told of the characteristics and eccentricities of the early circuit judges. They exercised more of the powers and authorities conferred upon judges by the common law, and were not hampered so much in the exercise of judicial prerogatives as judges of the present day. When judges held court in those earlier days they assumed there should be some dignity about the court, and that all that came within its jurisdiction should conduct themselves accordingly. The records of the day show that the heavy hand of the court did not fall alone upon visitors to the courtroom, or upon litigants or their respective counsel. At the November term, A. D. 1854, of the Circuit Court of Cass County, Judge Pinkney H. Walker, of the Fifth circuit, who was called to hold the Cass County court, entered two fines the same day against the sheriff, William Pitner, for failure to keep order in the court. The presumption is that the levying of the aforesaid fines had the desired effect, and the judge relented, for the record discloses that upon the last day of the term, just before adjournment, the court entered a remittance of "the fines heretofore assessed against the sheriff." Nor did the judges of the court in those days hesitate to apply the penalties of the law in matters other than decorum. A glance through the records covering a period of twelve years of the early part of the courts' existence in Cass County, shows the judges would not tolerate the taking of appeals for mere delay. In many cases wherein the appellant defaulted in prosecuting his appeal the judge assessed damages in favor of the appellee for the delay.

In February, 1857, the General Assembly of Illinois, then in session, passed an act establishing the Twenty-first Judicial Circuit. The act was approved February 7, 1857, and the new district was composed of Tazewell, Mason, Menard, Woodford and Cass counties. The act further provided for an election in all the counties composing the district to be held the second Monday of March following, for the election of one circuit judge, and a state's attorney for the district. James H. Harriott was elected judge, and Hugh Fullerton was elected state's attorney.

A CELEBRATED TRIAL.

These two names are connected with a famous trial which occurred at Beardstown, at the Circuit court, the next year, although at the time no very great importance was attached to the case except by the parties directly interested. The case was entitled "The People vs. William Armstrong," and known in history as the famous "Duff Armstrong Trial." The notoriety was occasioned solely by the fact that Abraham Lincoln appeared for the defendant, Armstrong, and by his able management of the case and his eloquent argument to the jury succeeded in clearing his client. Much space is given to this case as it is a part of Cass County history and more or less extended mention is made of it in every published life of Mr. Lincoln. A recital of the facts which led up to the trial is as follows.

In August, 1857, a religious camp meeting was in progress in Mason County, Ill., in a grove six or seven miles southwest of Mason City, and northeast of the junction of Salt Creek and the Sangamon River. It would be useless to occupy space with a description of a camp meeting. All the readers are more or less familiar with such meetings, either from personal experience, or from having read of them many times. They were an annual affair in the religious circles of the early days. Many hucksters gathered at these meetings to sell their wares to those in attendance, so that all who came were not of a religious turn of mind. A number went out of idle curiosity, many in order to meet with and visit their neighbors, and some went to raise trouble if an opportunity offered. The meeting was to close on Sunday, August 30, 1857, and on Saturday afternoon, August 29, quite a crowd of lovers of one of the principal sports of the times, horse racing, gathered about the huckster wagons some little distance from the meeting tent, in the hope of getting up a horse race, knowing that William Armstrong, commonly called "Duff" was there with his running horse. Although it was unlawful to do so, intoxicating liquor was frequently sold by disreputable persons at such gatherings; and at

any rate liquor was always bought and freely drunk by the more reckless, and often by those who were ordinarily fairly good citizens. The race came off and the winners celebrated by partaking of large potations of "sod-corn juice" and generously sharing their joys with the losers, until all were far beyond the pale of any influence for good that might have been engendered by the religious services in the meeting tent.

Duff Armstrong was a young man about twenty-four years old, was kind hearted, peaceable and quiet when sober, and not of a vicious nature even when in liquor. Late in the evening after the racing and jollification attendant thereon was over, Duff Armstrong, who had been drinking heavily, was lying on a bench near the Watkins and Armstrong wagons, sleeping off the effects of the liquor. About eight o'clock, one James P. Metzker, who lived a few miles across the county line in Menard County, came up to the bench on which Duff was lying. Metzker had also been drinking, and catching hold of Duff, jerked him off the bench, and, according to the statement of A. P. Armstrong, a brother of Duff, who was present and saw the whole transaction, spit in Duff's face. This naturally angered Duff, and a fight ensued, but neither of the belligerents were very much hurt, and friends separating them, they both took a drink, and the trouble seemed at an end. Metzker, it is said, was very quarrelsome when drinking, and being a large, powerful man, relied on that fact to care for himself in any physical encounter. Late in the night, between ten and eleven o'clock, Metzker was engaged in an encounter with one James H. Norris, and another man, presumably Duff Armstrong, as the second fight occurred near the Armstrong wagons, and witnesses claimed that Norris hit Metzker on the back of the head with a large stick of wood. Others claimed that Duff Armstrong struck Metzker with a slung shot. Metzker, however, was not so severly injured but that he could and did mount his horse and rode away towards home, and it was also said by some that he was in a drunken condition when he left, and on his way home, fell from his horse and received injuries which caused his death, as he died three days later. However, the general impression prevailed that Metzker was so badly beaten by Norris and Armstrong that it was from the effects of their blows that he died. Norris and Armstrong were both arrested, and at the October term A. D. 1857, of the Mason County Circuit Court, were jointly indicted for the murder of Metzker.

THE INDICTMENT.

The indictment contained three counts, each count having the following peculiar language not found in indictments of the present day. The persons indicted naming them "not having the fear of God before their eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, etc." The first count charges that Norris struck Metzker in the back of the head with a piece of wood about three feet long, and that Armstrong struck Metzker in the right eye with a "hard metalic substance called a slung shot." The second count charges that both Norris and Armstrong struck Metzker in the right eye with a slung shot; and the third count charges that both Norris and Armstrong struck Metzker on the back of the head with a "certain stick of wood three feet long and of the diameter of two inches," from which wounds Metzker died on the first day of September, 1857. The indictment was signed by Hugh Fullerton, state's attorney, and the following names endorsed as witnesses: Grigsby Z. Metzker, Charles Allen, James P. Walker, William M. Hall, Joseph A. Douglas, William Douglas, B. F. Stephenson, Hamilton Rogers, William Killion, Joseph Speltz and William Haines. The indictment was also endorsed "not bailable, James Harriott," and was filed in the court November 5, 1857.

When the case was called, Norris stated to the court that he was poor and unable to employ counsel. Judge Harriott, who was presiding, appointed William Walker, senior partner of Lyman Lacey, to defend Norris. The law firm of Dilworth & Campbell had been employed by Mrs. Hannah Armstrong, the mother of Duff, to defend him. A motion was made to quash the indictment, which motion was overruled. A change of venue was asked on behalf of Armstrong, on the grounds of prejudice of the minds of the people of Mason County against the defendant Armstrong. The motion was allowed, and the venue was changed to Cass County, in the same judicial district, and adjoining Mason County on the south. Norris entered a plea of not guilty, and went to trial. As a result of the trial, Norris was convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to the penitentiary for eight years. The penitentiary at that time was located at Alton, and as the most convenient mode of travel



CARRIE BLUME

from Havana to that place was by river steamer on the Illinois River, and as Beardstown, then the county seat of Cass County, was on the way, the sheriff of Mason County, started for Alton with Norris, as soon as the Mason County court adjourned, and took Armstrong with him as far as Beardstown, where he was delivered over to the sheriff of Cass County, and placed in the county jail at Beardstown. A transcript of the entire record of the case in Mason County, was sent to the circuit clerk of Cass County, and with it the indictment and all files and papers connected with the case. They are now on file in the office of the circuit clerk of this county. From these files and the records of the Cass County Circuit court all information pertaining to the court proceedings in this case has been obtained. It is a singular fact that with all that has been told and written about Abraham Lincoln's connection with this case there is not one item of record that bears his name, nor does his name appear on any paper filed in the case. Two of the instructions given by the court to the jury are unquestionably in the handwriting of Abraham Lincoln, and his appearance for the defendant Armstrong, in the Cass County Circuit court is well authenticated by testimony of many witnesses, some of whom are still living in this county.

The Circuit court of Cass County for November, 1857, convened November 16, with Hon. James Harriott, judge presiding, Hugh Fullerton, state's attorney, James A. Dick, sheriff, and James Taylor, clerk of the court.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ENTERS THE CASE.

In the meanwhle Jack Armstrong, the father of Duff, had died, and as a last request urged his wife, Hannah, to use every effort possible to clear their son. Mrs. Armstrong, calling to mind her friend of twenty years before, Abraham Lincoln, now a leading lawyer of Springfield, drove all the way to the state capital to see if she could secure the services of that distinguished man to get her son admitted to bail. Mr. Lincoln had been introduced to the Armstrong family soon after his advent in New Salem, through engaging in a friendly wrestling match, to comply with the incessant urging of his friends, with Jack Armstrong, who was not only a bully of the neighborhood, but also a physically strong, courageous man. The wrestling match resulted in Mr. Lincoln conquering the backwoods athlete, thus winning the admiration of all the men of that section, including his opponent, and gained, through his pluck, the lasting friendship of Armstrong and all his relatives. Mr. Lincoln soon after the encounter went to live with the Armstrong family, and often spoke of the motherly kindness of Mrs. Armstrong towards him when he was a penniless young man, struggling to fit himself for some useful employment in life. His own, kindly, sympathetic and generous nature never permitted him to forget a kindness to himself, so when Mrs. Armstrong saw him at Springfield and related her trouble, represented the hazardous position of her son before the law, Mr. Lincoln at once promised assistance. Although a very busy man, he ascertained when court would be in session at Beardstown, and set out on horseback for that place to see what could be done to restore the son of an old friend to freedom. The record of the court for that term in that case is as follows:

"November 19, 1857. The People of the State of Illinois

Vs. Venue from Mason County

William Armstrong.

"And now on this day come the People of the State of Illinois, by their attorney, Hugh Fullerton, Esquire, and the prisoner, William Armstrong, who is brought here to the bar in proper person. A motion is made by the prisoner, to admit him to bail. Whereupon a motion was made on the part of the People for a continuance until the next term of this court, which after due deliberation by the court, was granted, and the motion to admit to bail, was overruled." Mr. Lincoln then promised he would return at the next term of the court, which would be in May of the next year, and assist Armstrong.

During the ensuing winter, Duff Armstrong remained in Cass County jail at Beardstown, and on May 3, 1858, the regular May term of the Cass County Circuit court convened with Judge Harriott presiding, and the same court officers present and acting who had served at the November term, 1857. Subpoenas had been issued for witnesses for the people and for the defendant, to appear on the first day of the May term, 1858. There were eleven for the people, and twelve for the defendant. It appears from the subpoenas on file that none was issued for the witness, Charles Allen, until May 5, when one was sent to the sheriff of Menard County, at Petersburg where Allen resided. The name

of Dr. B. F. Stevenson was also included in this subpoena. The sheriff's return states that he served Stevenson, but that Allen was not found and that he, the sheriff, was told that Allen had gone to Beardstown. On May 6, an attachment was issued for both witnesses, Stevenson and Allen. The return of the sheriff is that he served the attachment by arresting Allen and having him in court on May 7, 1858. No return is shown in the case of Stevenson. The story is told by those who claimed to know the facts, and it has been incorporated in statements by various writers relative to this portion of the narrative, that Allen had been persuaded by friends of Armstrong to remain concealed at Virginia, thirteen miles east of Beardstown, until he should be wanted by them, if at all, and that when Mr. Lincoln arrived at Beardstown on May 6, and found Allen was not there, he told Armstrong's friends that he must be produced, or Duff might have to remain in jail another six months, as the cause would be continued at the instance of the prosecuting attorney; that thereupon two cousins of Duff hitched up to a wagon, went to Virginia, and returned with Allen. This may all be true, but if so, the sheriff either took a hand in getting Allen into court, or made a false return, which is not at all likely. However it is a fact, vouched for by several creditable persons that Mr. Lincoln did arrive at Beardstown May 6, 1858, having come on horseback from Springfield.

On May 7, 1858, which was Friday, the fifth day of court, the case of the People vs. Armstrong, was called. The prisoner arraigned, and a plea of "not guilty" was entered, a jury was called, and the following named persons were selected and sworn to try the cause: Horace Hill, Milton Logan, Nelson Graves, Charles D. Marcy, John T. Brady, Thornton M. Cole, George F. Sielschott, Sam W. Neely, Mathew Armstrong, Benjamin Eyre, John W. Johnston, August Hoyer. The first four above named were of the regular panel of jurors for the term, but the others were summoned by the sheriff after the regular panel was exhausted. Just how many witnesses for the prosecution were sworn and testified, nor how many testified for the defendant, cannot now be known. There was no stenographic report, and nothing remains but the memory of man upon which to base a conclusion. Some persons have said, and some writers accept the statement as true, that only one witness was introduced for the people, and that was Charles Allen. William Douglas, who at that time lived in Mason County, but who subsequently resided at Ashland, in this county, for many years, who was one of the witnesses endorsed upon the indictment, and subpoenaed to testify, said that he was the first witness called for the people; that all witnesses had been excluded from the courtroom during the trial, and he being thus first called, heard the whole trial. While the short duration of the trial made it impossible to have heard many witnesses, it is hardly possible that the people could have proven all the elements necessary to be proven in such a case by the one witness, Charles Allen. The deepest interest certainly centered in the testimony of Allen, who swore that Armstrong struck Metzker in the face with a slung shot; that it was between ten and eleven o'clock at night; that he was near the wagons where the fight occurred and plainly saw the blow struck by Armstrong. On cross examination, which was conducted by Mr. Lincoln, Allen was asked how he could see so plainly, it being late at night. The witness replied that it was bright moonlight; that the moon was right up overhead, about where the sun would be at one o'clock in the afternoon. Being questioned particularly about the moon, he again repeated the statement as to its locality in the sky, so there could have been no misunderstanding on the part of court or jury, as to where the witness stated the moon to have been.

MR. LINCOLN HEARS HIS CLIENT.

After the evidence of the witnesses was all in, Mr. Lincoln asked if someone would bring him an almanac. This was produced, and as one of the jurors, J. T. Brady says in a letter on the subject, it was handed up to the judge, examined by counsel, and by the jury, and showed that the moon could not have been in the position in the sky where the witness said it was, for the moon set at 12:05 p. m. on the night of August 29, 1857.

The arguments of counsel were made; the instruction of the court given, and the jury retired in custody of an officer to consider their verdict. All which the record recites and concludes with the following:

"And afterwards to wit, on the same day, the said jurors came into court in charge of the officer aforesaid, and the said prisoner, Armstrong, being brought into court in proper person

by the sheriff of said county of Cass, the said jurors for verdict on their oaths do say that the said defendant is not guilty in the following words, to wit, We the jury acquit the defendant from all charges preferred against him in the indictment." The trial did not occupy much time, and the jury was not out long in arriving at a verdict. Positive proof of this fact is furnished by the record of the court of that day. One William McCrudden was tried the same day by a jury on a charge of riot. On the jury that tried McCrudden were three of the jurors that sat on the Armstrong trial, namely: Charles D. Marcy, John T. Brady and Nelson Graves. The jury in that case also returned its verdict that same day.

CORRECTING FALSE STATEMENTS.

Many absurd, and some very ridiculous stories are told and statements made, concerning this trial, and the assault which caused it. Not the least ridiculous is the statement in an account published in McClure's magazine of August, 1896, which is credited to Miss Ida Tarbell. In that article appears the following statement:

"That same night Metzker was hit with an ox-yoke by another drunken reveler, Norris by name."

Anyone who ever saw an ox-yoke might ask about this "reveler," as the innocent child asked of a certain distinguished personage of ancient history. "Was he like old Goliath, tall, his spear a hundred weight?"

The almanac and the moon have come in for a great share of notoriety in connection with this celebrated case. This article is not written to prove or disprove anything, but is recorded simply as one of the celebrated events in the history of Cass County. Yet the truth ought to be ascertained, if possible, and be here represented, for there are some stories which have gained currency and are believed by many who are not conversant with the real facts, that merit attention. That there was an almanac in the trial is almost beyond any question of doubt; and that it was a genuine almanac of the date 1857, is attested by creditable witnesses. That which casts doubt upon whether it was a genuine one or a "faked" one, is the many statements made by persons who claimed to have been present at the trial, and by writers who have accepted such statements and recorded them without investigation.

MANY BIOGRAPHIES OF LINCOLN RELATE THIS TRIAL.

Several writers of the "Life of Lincoln" have incorporated the Duff Armstrong trial in their volume. In Barret's "Life of Lincoln" referring to this trial, the author says that Allen testified to the exact position of the moon, then says: "At this point Mr. Lincoln produced an almanac which showed that at the time referred to by the witness there was no moon at all, and showed it to the jury." Mr. Herndon in his "Life of Lincoln" also gives an account of the trial, and says, "Lincoln floored the principal witness for the prosecution, who had testified positively to seeing the fatal blow struck in the moonlight, by showing from an almanac that the moon had set."

ANOTHER ALMANAC STORY.

One of the stories about the almanac early in circulation, was that Mr. Lincoln, on the adjournment of court for the day, took an almanac of the date 1853 and changed the figures throughout so that it read 1857. That there was an adjournment for the day before the trial closed is refuted by the record as given above. Furthermore, the opportunity for certain detection of such a fraud was so great, and had it been detected it would have proven disastrous, and resulted in the certain conviction of the defendant, and in everlasting disgrace to Mr. Lincoln and his associate counsel, even if it could be believed for a moment that either or all of the counsel would have been guilty of the attempt to perpetrate such a fraud. The firm of Walker & Lacey had been employed to defend the case, and both members of the firm were present at the trial. The firm was composed of William Walker, a reputable and highly respected attorney of the Mason County bar, and Lyman Lacey, who was one of the young men above reproach. He subsequently became circuit judge of the district of which Cass County formed a part, and served as such judge for a period of twenty-four years. He was also for many years judge of the Appellate court of this state. Mr. Lincoln was at that time, next to Senator Douglas, the most conspicuous figure in Illinois. It was fully expected that the Republican convention which was to be held at Springfield on June 16, would nominate him as its candidate for United States senator, which

it did. It is incomprehensible that snch men shonld be accused of engaging in a work of frand of that character, and more especially when it would have been wholly nnnecessary. The witness, Allen, had testified and emphasized the statement by repeating it, that the moon was right np overhead. It is a well known fact that the moon in the snmmer months "runs low," that is, it does not rise high above the horizon in latitnde 40, north. All the almanacs for the year 1857, which give the phases and the honr of the rising and setting of the moon, show that on the night of Angnst 29, of that year, the moon set at 12:05.

ASTRONOMER TESTIFIES.

For additional proof of the position of the moon on that date, J. N. Gridley who was preparing an article on the subject for the jonrnal of the Illinois State Historical Society, wrote the director of the conservatory at Urbana, Ill., who replied thereto as follows: "The time of moonset was within fifteen minntes of midnight, but to give this closer, I would have to know the exact locality for which to compnte." In answer to a second letter furnishing the desired information, the director replied: "I computed the time of moonset for longitude 90 degrees west of Greenwich, the latitude 40 degrees. For Augnst 29, 1857, I find the moonset at 12 h. 05 m., i. e., five minutes after midnight of Angnst 29."

On Angnst 30, 1914, the moon set at 12 h. m. the 29th falling on Saturday, as it did in 1857. For all practical purposes of observing the position of the moon between the honrs of 10 o'clock P. M., and 12 o'clock P. M., the moon on Augnst 30 this year was the same as it was on August 29 and 30, 1857. The writer in company with others observed the position of the moon on the night of August 30, 1914, and found it low above the horizon from 10 o'clock, P. M., and of course getting lower until it set at 12 M. From all the above it is evident the moon was not in the position in the sky where the witness Allen had sworn that it was. To refute the statements of the witness Allen, and to discredit his testimony before the jury, Mr. Lincoln produced the almanac to show the real position of the moon. It was so understood at the time, and no other view was taken nntil years afterwards when some irresponsible degenerate person wished to smirch the character of Abraham Lincoln, and call into qnestion his honesty and integrity. John T. Brady, the last snrvivor of the jurors who tried Armstrong, writing to his friend J. N. Gridley of Virginia, in 1909, says of this part of the trial.

"I am satisfied the jnry thonght Allen was telling the truth. I know that he impressed me that way, bnt his evidence with reference to the moon was so far from the facts that it destroyed his evidence with the jnry. The almanac that was prodnced was examined closely by the conrt and the attorneys for the state, and the almanac showed that the moon at that time was going ont of sight, setting; and the almanac was allowed to be nsed as evidence by Jndge Harriott." Mr. Brady fnrther says, speaking of the deliberations of the jnry: "We were out less than an hour; only one ballot was taken, and that was unanimons for acquittal."

The discrediting of the principal witness for the prosecntion, and the eloquent address to the jury by Abraham Lincoln, caused them to make short work of the case, and it wonld have been long since forgotten, and gone into ntter oblivion if it had not been for the snbsequent fame of the chief connsel for the defense.

TABLET PLACED ON COURT HOUSE.

The old courthonse in which the trial was held is yet standing in excellent condition, and is used as the city hall for Beardstown, and also for the city conrt, recently established in that city. In 1909 the Woman's Clnb of Beardstown placed on the walls of the building a tablet reading:

"The Beardstown Woman's Club" erected this tablet, February 12, 1909.

"In memory of Abraham Lincoln, who, for the sake of a mother in distress, cleared her son, Dnff Armstrong, of the charge of murder in this Hall of Justice, May 7, 1858."

Duff (or William) Armstrong enlisted for service in the Civil war, and served until 1862, when, being seriously sick in a hospital, his mother wrote President Lincoln, who sent an order for his discharge. He was an honorable citizen of Cass County and lived a sober, indnstrious life, dying at Ashlannd, this county, May 5, 1899. The brother, A. P. Armstrong, who witnessed the assanlt, and was present at the trial of both Norris and his brother William, is still living at Ashland.

Judge Harriott continued to hold the Cass



THE OLD I. M. STRIBLING HOMESTEAD



M. E. CHURCH, VIRGINIA, DESTROYED BY A CYCLONE NOVEMBER 11, 1911



VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL
BUILDING

Erected on the Site of the Old College, 1893. Destroyed by Fire in January, 1912.



HIGH SCHOOL, VIRGINIA

Built in 1913-14 on the Site of the Building Destroyed by Fire in 1912



VIRGINIA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Remodeled From Old Court House Building in 1911

County circuit as judge of the Twenty-first Judicial Circuit until 1867, when he was succeeded by Hon. Charles Turner, who held the court until the change was made under the constitution of 1870. By act of legislature March 28, 1873, the General Assembly divided the state, exclusive of Cook County, into twenty-six judicial circuits, in which a judge for each circuit was elected, June 2, 1873, for a term of six years. Cass County was a part of the Eighteenth Circuit, and Hon. Cyrus Epler was elected judge. Cyrus Epler was a son of John and Sarah (Beggs) Epler. Mrs. Epler was the second daughter of Captain Charles Beggs, one of the early pioneers of Cass County. John Epler settled on a farm near Princeton, in what is now the southern part of Cass County, with his wife and four children, the oldest of whom was Cyrus, who was born in the Indiana home, November 12, 1823. Cyrus Epler had been a practicing lawyer for some years in the city of Jacksonville, when he was elected to the bench as judge of the Eighteenth circuit. He was continuously elected and served as judge of the Cass circuit as long as Cass County was associated with Morgan County in the various circuits which were formed in and under acts of legislature redistricting the state. The act of 1897 placed Morgan and Cass counties in separate districts and ended the successful career of Judge Epler of a quarter of a century as a circuit judge.

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

By act of 1877 thirteen circuits exclusive of Cook County, were formed and provision made for the election of three judges for each district. Cass County was a part of the Seventh circuit and we had as judges, Hon. Cyrus Epler, Hon. Lyman Lacy of Havana, and Hon. Albert C. Burr of Carrolton. Judge Burr died while in office and was succeeded by Hon. George W. Herdman of Jersyville. These judges served until 1897, when under the apportionment of that year Cass became a part of the Eighth circuit in which it has remained ever since. The three judges elected for this district or circuit at the regular election, June 18, 1897, were John C. Broady of Quincy, Harry Higbee of Pittsfield, and Thomas N. Mehan of Mason City. They served for a term of six years when Judge Broady was succeeded by Hon. Albert Akers of Quincy, the other two being re-elected. Judge Mehan, however, survived only the half of his term. He held the October term, 1906, of the Cass County court, but retired to his home in Mason City, a very sick man, and his illness terminated in his death on November 8, 1906. At the special election held December 29, 1906, Guy R. Williams of Havana was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the decease of Judge Mehan. Judge Williams has the distinction of being the youngest circuit judge in the state, being but thirty-five years of age when elected. At the next regular election held in June, 1909, he was re-elected for a full term of six years together with Judge Higbee and Judge Akers, and they are the present incumbents. Judge Higbee has also served during the entire time for which he was elected judge of this circuit, as judge of the Appellate court of the Second and Fourth districts successively. Notwithstanding the various changes in the judicial system and the several re-apportionments, since Cass County's organization, we have been favored with excellent judges. They have been very capable men, honorable and upright, learned in their profession, and conscientious in the discharge of their duties.

When the permanent location of the county seat of Cass County was determined, the Circuit court once more convened at Virginia, in the present courthouse, the third Monday of August, or on August 16, 1875.

The county courts were, by the constitution of 1870, made courts of record, and entirely separated from the business affairs of the county. They have original jurisdiction of all matters in probate and the settlement of estates, appointment of guardians and conservators, and in matters relating to apprentices and for the collection of taxes and assessments, and such other jurisdiction as the legislature may provide. The legislature has seen fit to confer upon the County court, jurisdiction of many matters and subjects until the volume of business in those courts has equaled and often exceeded annually the business of the Circuit court.

COUNTY COURT JUDGES.

The County court has been presided over since 1873, when the first election for judge of the court was held, by the following persons: John W. Savage, 1873 to 1877; Jacob W. Rearick, 1877 to 1882; Darius N. Walker, 1882 to 1890; Henry Phillips, 1890 to 1898; John F. Robinson,

1898 to 1902; Darius N. Walker, 1902 to 1910; Charles Æ. Martin, 1910 to 1914. Judge Martin was re-elected November 3, 1914, for another term of four years.

BEARDSTOWN CITY COURT.

An election was held in the city of Beardstown, April 18, 1911, upon the question whether or not a city court should be established for that city. The proposition to establish the court was carried by a large majority, and on June 8, following, an election was held for judge and clerk. Hon. J. Joseph Cooke was elected judge and John Listman was elected clerk. The court was formally opened November 6, A. D. 1911. The regular sessions thereafter were established by order of the judge in accordance with the provisions of the law relating to city courts.

The names of attorneys who have resided in Cass County and practiced at the bar of the various courts, in so far as they can be ascertained, have been as follows: Henry E. Dummer, J. Henry Shaw, Garland Pollard, Sylvester Emmons, Henry Phillips, Thomas H. Carter, Richard S. Thomas, Mark W. Delaha, Charles E. Wyman, Richard W. Mills, James Norman Gridley, Cassius W. Whitney, Charles M. Tinney, Arthur A. Leeper, Linus C. Chandler, George L. Warlow, William H. Thacker, George W. Martin, Richard Wade, Benjamin F. Thacker, Reuben R. Hewitt, Charles Æ. Martin, Benjamin F. Scudder, Rollo I. Woods, Milton McClure, Charles A. Schaeffer, Charles A. Gridley, William Jones, J. Joseph Cooke, I. H. Stanley, A. T. Lucas, J. J. Nieger, William T. Gordley, William H. Dieterich, Lloyd M. McClure, Leonard W. Felker, Harry F. Downing, H. F. Kors, and J. Edward Clifford.

STATE'S ATTORNEYS.

The constitution of 1870 also abolished the district attorney and provided that at the election for members of the General Assembly in the year A. D. 1872, there should be elected in each county a state's attorney, whose term of office should be four years. Under that provision of the law, Cass County in 1872, elected Linus C. Chandler to the office of state's attorney, and he served one term of four years, when he was succeeded by Arthur A. Leeper, elected in November, 1876. He also served one term; Reuben R. Hewitt, elected in November, 1880, succeeded and served for four successive terms, or a period of sixteen years. He declined further nomination, and was succeeded by Charles A. Schaeffer, elected in 1896, who served for one term. In November, 1900, Charles A. Gridley was elected to this office and served until 1908, a period of two terms, when he in turn was succeeded by A. T. Lucas, elected in 1908, and re-elected in 1912, who is the present incumbent, his term not expiring until 1916.

CHAPTER XII.

POLITICAL REPRESENTATION.

THE TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY—REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS FROM MORGAN COUNTY—DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC MEN—CREATION OF CASS COUNTY—SPECIAL ELECTION FOR REPRESENTATIVE—CAPTAIN THOMAS WILBOURN—SECOND SESSION TENTH ASSEMBLY—RETURNS OF BEARDSTOWN ELECTION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS — SHIELD'S REPORT — CHALLENGES ABRAHAM LINCOLN—WILBOURN REJECTED—ELECTION OF 1838—WHIGS IN CONTROL IN CASS COUNTY—DEMOCRATS ELECT CARLIN GOVERNOR—JOHN T. STUART BEATS STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS FOR CONGRESS—WILLIAM HOLMES ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE FROM CASS—CAMPAIGN OF 1840—CAPTAIN CHARLES BEGGS—BIOGRAPHY OF A USEFUL LEGISLATOR—COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADOPT PRICE SCHEDULE—DEMOCRATS CARRY STATE FOR VAN BUREN—ELECTION OF 1842—COUNTY SEAT LOCATED—ELECTION OF 1844—A CASS COUNTY PATRIOT—CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION—MORMON TROUBLE—GOVERNOR FORD'S CALL FOR MILITIA—ABRAHAM LINCOLN DEFEATS PETER CARTWRIGHT FOR CONGRESS—CONSTITUTION OF 1848—BIOGRAPHY OF JUDGE HENRY E. DUMMER, ELECTED CASS COUNTY DELEGATE TO CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

THE TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Tenth General Assembly of the state of Illinois convened at Vandalia, the state capital at that time, in its first session December 25,

1836, and adjourned March 6, 1837. The members of the assembly were elected at the regular election for state officers on the first Monday of August, 1836. Morgan County then included the present county of Scott and the present county of Cass, and was represented in the legislature by William Thomas, William Weatherford and William O'Rear in the senate, and Newton Cloud, Stephen A. Douglas, Richard S. Walker, W. W. Happy, John J. Hardin, Joseph Morton, and John Wyatt in the house. Mr. Wyatt succeeded Stephen A. Douglas, who had resigned after the first session. This was a larger delegation than any county had in the state, except Sangamon County, which had an equal representation with Morgan County. The members representing Morgan County were able men, capable of looking after the interests of their constituents, and the general welfare of the state. Four of them became distinguished later in the affairs of the state and nation. William Thomas became a circuit judge and held court several terms in Cass County. Newton Cloud was elected a delegate to the State Constitutional Convention of 1848, and was chosen as its permanent president. John J. Hardin was elected to the Twentieth Congress in 1843, and also became distinguished in the military service in the Mexican war, as colonel of the First Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was killed at the battle of Buena Vista, February 23, 1847. Prior to his entering upon his service in the Mexican war, he had been a brigadier general in charge of state troops in the Mormon war, when the rendezvous of the army was at Beardstown. Stephen A. Douglas became of such national importance that no extended mention of him is necessary in this place.

CREATION OF CASS COUNTY.

Party lines had been pretty sharply drawn in the general election for president, and for members of congress. President Jackson was just closing his second term of office, and on account of his attitude towards the National Bank, and his frequent use of the veto power, had brought the Democratic party into considerable unpopularity, so that although the party carried the state for Martin Van Buren over the Whig candidate, it was by a majority of less than 3,000. On account of the agitation on the part of a number of citizens of the northern part of Morgan County for the creation of a new county to be cut off from that part of Morgan County, considerable interest had been manifested in the election of members of the Tenth General Assembly, which it was hoped would take up that question on petitions presented for that purpose. Many important questions came before that session of the legislature, not least among them being that of the removal of the state capital from Vandalia. Notwithstanding the many and varied questions presented and acted upon, that legislature three days before adjournment, did pass an act for the creation of a new county to which was given the name Cass, but its boundaries as prescribed by the bill were not satisfactory to its promoters. The proposition had yet to be voted upon by the people of Morgan County before the county could be established, but the vote was taken and the measure carried. Several sections of the act creating the new county were ambiguous, especially those concerning the location of the county seat, and the one relative to representation in the state legislature. Citizens of Beardstown, believing that under the act passed and ratified, Cass County was entitled to a representative, immediately called an election, which was held July 1, 1837, which resulted in the election of Capt. Thomas Wilbourn, of Beardstown.

A second session of the Tenth assembly, convened July 10, 1837, at which time the return and poll books of the Beardstown election were presented by Hon. Richard S. Walker, a representative from Morgan County, who moved to lay them on the table. The Hon. William A. Richardson of Schuyler County, a friend of Captain Wilbourn, and of the new county of Cass, came to the rescue and moved that the poll book and return be referred to the committee on elections, which was done. No record of this election can be found except in the House journal under date of July 12, 1837, in which appears the following:

"Mr. Shields from the committee on elections to which had been referred the poll book and return of an election for representative in the legislature from the county of Cass reported, that the county of Cass was formed out of the county of Morgan by an act passed during the last session of the general assembly, and organized according to the provisions of the same; that at an election held at Beardstown, in said county, on the first day of July last, Thomas Wilbourn was elected to represent said county in

the legislature of this state. By referring to the seveuth section of the act above mentioned, the only sectiou bearing directly upon the subject, we find the following provisions: 'In case said county of Cass shall be created under the provisions of this act, theu, uutil the next apportionment of senators aud representatives iu the geueral assembly, the said county shall be entitled to one representative to the general as sembly, and shall at the next election vote with the county of Morgan for one senator, and the county of Morgan shall be entitled to five representatives and two senators.' By the last apportionment the county of Morgan was entitled to six representatives aud three senators, and it is clear that whatever dispositiou its citizens may choose to make of their county, and into whatever number of distinct counties they may choose to partition its territory they cannot expect to increase their proportion of representatiou until the next general apportionment, whatever quantum therefore of representation is given to Cass must be deducted from Morgan. It then remains to consider, whether the new couuty was entitled to elect its own representative at the time above stated, and then supply the place of the member of the Morgan delegation who had previously resigned. The act above referred to was approved the third of March last, and provides that Cass shall be entitled to one representative, and shall at the next election vote with the county of Morgan for one senator. This evidently means the next general election; that contemplated by the second article of our state constitution, and could bear no reference to a special election for a specific purpose, such as that which has lately occurred iu Morgan County to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resiguation of one of its members, Stephen A. Douglas. This appears still more obvious if we consider that had no vacancy occurred this question could not have arisen and the representative who had been elected to fill such vacancy stands upon the same ground occupied by his precedessor previous to his resignation. Besides, the members of the present delegation from the county of Morgan were not elected by the present couuty of Morgan, but by the counties of Morgan and Cass; thus the citizens of the new county of Cass cannot justly complain that they are left unrepresented. Your committee, therefore, unanimously conclude that the new county of Cass is not entitled to a separate represeutative, aud that the election held as above stated was wholly null and void."

CHALLENGES ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Geueral Shields, who made the above report, which is little less ambiguous than the act of the legislature which it purports to construe, was the member from Randolph County, and afterwards became distinguished as a soldier in the Mexican war. He was commissioned by President Polk, a brigadier general of volunteers. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Shields in 1842, challeuged Abraham Lincoln to fight a duel. While the whole matter was ludicrous and farcical iu the extreme, yet the affair went so far that both parties and their seconds went to Alton, Ill., aud from there by small row boats across to an island in the Mississippi River, where, before the actual fighting began, mutual friends arrived aud the difficulty was amicably adjusted. Geueral Shields had the unique distinction of being elected United States senator from three different states. First from Illiuois, being elected in 1849, defeating Senator Sidney Breese; then in 1855, having moved in the iuterval to Minnesota, he was there elected for a year to fill a vacancy. His third election was by the legislature of Missouri, to which he had gone during the Civil war, after having resigned a generalship, and retired from the military service. In 1878 he was elected to fill the unexpired term of Senator Bogy, deceased.

Until the year 1837, there had been no conveution system for the nomination of candidates for public office, and even then it was thought to be necessary to have a nominating convention for state officers only. The election in the county of Cass for its first county officers, was not conducted on party liues, and the men elected to office were about equally divided politically between the two parties, Democratic and Whig. In December, 1837, the Democrats of Illinois held their first state convention at Vandalia, the state capital, and Col. James W. Stephenson of Galeua, was nominated for goveruor; John S. Hacker for lieutenant-governor, but on it being discovered later that Colouel Stephenson was a defaulter of moneys as receiver of the land office, the same delegates again met at Vandalia the next June, aud substituted Thomas Carlin for governor in place of Stephenson, and Stinson H. Anderson in place of Hacker for lieutenant-goveruor. It was generally conceded that Cyrus



Howard B. Boone, M.D.

Edwards would be the logical candidate of the Whigs for governor, and so became, so that party held no convention, and William H. Davidson was made the candidate for lieutenant-governor without any preliminary opposition. The first general election in Cass County was held August 6, 1838, the Whigs proving to be in the majority. The state at large, however, elected Thomas Carlin governor, although his vote in Cass County was only 188 to 335 for Edwards. John T. Stuart, a Whig, defeated Stephen A. Douglas for Congress by only fourteen votes. Stuart lived at Springfield, in Sangamon County, and as Cass County was associated with Sangamon County as a part of the Third Congressional District, he was known to many here. The election for state senator was also very close, but William Thomas, a Whig, was elected by a small majority. William Holmes, also a Whig, was elected as the representative to the legislature from Cass County, having the distinction of being the first representative of this county. Had the convention system been in vogue at that time, and the Democrats nominated one candidate only, he would probably have been beaten, as the combined vote of Thomas Beard and Henry McKean, his two opponents, both Democratic, was 312 to 208 for Holmes.

BIOGRAPHY OF A USEFUL LEGISLATOR.

William Holmes was thirty-seven years old when elected to the legislature, and had been for twelve years a resident of that part of Morgan County which was eventually made over into Cass County. He was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., February 7, 1799. His parents, John and Phoebe (Dougherty) Holmes, were natives of Connecticut, but had removed soon after their marriage, a few miles over the state line into New York, where they engaged in an attempt to farm, but scarcely a living could be extracted from the poor soil on which they had settled, and there was nothing in that rural life to attract their boy, William, or induce him to remain at that sort of employment. He attained the rudiments of an education in the district schools of his native county and then started for a full course at the Poughkeepsie Academy, but after a few terms found he was without funds to proceed. He then left home and went into New Jersey where he taught several terms of school, and with the money thus earned and saved, he made his way into the West, landing in Posey County, Ind. There he taught school for a short time, but that country falling far short of the western paradise he had heard so much of before leaving his native state, and learning there of the famous Sangamon country in Illinois, he resolved to move once more farther west. He crossed the Wabash River, and followed the "Movers' Trail" through Illinois, until he reached the northern part of Morgan County. There he found a few settlers, among them being Archibald Job and Henry Hopkins. Mr. Holmes engaged board at the Hopkins home, and took up a claim adjoining that of Mr. Hopkins on the west. That same year, 1826, Joseph McDonald arrived in the neighborhood from Kentucky. He also took up a claim, but did not wait long until he went to the land office at Springfield and entered his land from the government. The state auditor's certificate of land entries in the recorder's office shows that June 5, 1826, Joseph McDonald entered the east one-half of the northwest one quarter of section 11, township 17, north, range 9 west, eighty acres, and that on September 15, 1826, William Holmes entered the southwest one-quarter of section 5, township 17, north, range 9 west. Later he sold the one eighty acres to Mr. Hopkins, it being the claim on which Mr. Hopkins had settled. Mr. Holmes married Mary McDonald, daughter of Joseph McDonald on December 7, 1827, in the new brick house which Mr. McDonald had built on the land entered the previous year. This house is said to have been the first brick house erected between Beardstown and Springfield. It was a small house, but well built, from brick burned on the premises, and is still standing and in excellent condition. Two years after his marriage, Mr. Holmes entered the west one-half of the southeast one-quarter of section 31, township 18, north, range 9 west, upon which he built a substantial frame house, and removed to it. There he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. Mr. Holmes died at the old homestead, January 18, 1878, aged seventy-eight years, eleven months and eleven days. His wife had died seven years before, on June 19, 1871, at the age of sixty-nine years. He was above the average in intelligence, and, coupled with a good education it is not surprising that the Whigs in seeking a candidate to represent them in the legislature, should select Mr. Holmes. He had, the year previous to his election, proven himself

snfficiently popnlar to beat his opponent for connty snrveyor, William Clark, by sixty-seven votes. Mr. Holmes served but one term in the legislature, but dnring that term many measures of importance to the people of Illinois were presented and acted upon, and those which appealed to him as being beneficial to the people he sustained with his vote. Mr. Holmes introdnced and succeeded in getting passed the act, mentioned and set forth in a previous chapter, concerning the location of the connty seat of Cass County at Virginia, reciting in a preamble that Beardstown had failed to comply with either the provisions of the original act, creating the county, or the subsequent act extending to it the time of payment of the $10,000 required to be donated in case the county seat shonld be located at Beardstown. The ambiguous legislation concerning the county seat of Cass County has had as mnch to do, as has the natural rivalry of the two towns, Beardstown and Virginia, in engendering and continuing the hostile feeling and bitterness that has entered into the elections on the question of the permanent location of the county seat; and which has been manifested ever since the organization of the connty in nearly every election for connty officers.

As at that time each city, town and village, had to look to the legislature for everything pertaining to its organization and corporate status, citizens of Virginia and Beardstown strove to keep a member in the legislature who would be alert to their particnlar interests. Party lines were often wholly disregarded in the efforts of each rival section of the county, but it was not nntil Beardstown had, by reason of the large packing industries established there, which brought in a great many laborers and their families and thus increased the population and voting strength very rapidly, that it was able to elect a local representative to the assembly. Amos S. West, who had entered and lived upon a fine tract of land adjoining the Dr. Hall land in township 17, north, range 10, west, upon which was laid out the town of Virginia, was nominated for member of the legislature in 1840, and was carried into office on the ticket with "Old Tippecanoe and Tyler too" in the excitable campaign of that year. General Harrison had in Cass County, or what in a few years thereafter became a part of Cass County, a strong supporter in the person of Captain Charles Beggs, of Princeton, who had commanded a company of cavalry in the famous battle of Tippecanoe, while he was a resident of Clark Connty, Ind. He had made the acqnaintance of General Harrison when he was a delegate to the convention called to meet at Vincennes to form a constitution for the new territory of Indiana organized in 1800. A close, personal friendship grew np between the two which lasted unbroken dnring the nearly thirty years Captain Beggs remained a resident of Indiana. There was but two years' difference in their ages, and, although Captain Beggs had, for himself, long passed the age of political ambition, yet it was but natnral he should join heartily in the "log cabin and hard cider" campaign for his old friend, General Harrison. The campaign was conducted in Cass County with that same degree of enthusiasm and hilarity as it was elsewhere. The great feature in rallies was the carrying of miniatnre log cabins by fonr men; or hauling a large cabin on a wagon drawn by four or more horses or teams of oxen. These cabins were decorated with coon skins tacked up on the sides, or upon the door. The drivers of the teams were usually dressed in homespnn, and wore caps made of coon skins. If the cabin was borne on a wagon there was also, generally, a barrel of hard cider alongside of it, with a gonrd dipper to drink from. It was a noisy campaign, the rallies were largely attended, and the parades and processions were joined in by hundreds of men, carrying their long squirrel rifles, or whatever style of gun they happened to own. Along with the cabins in the procession were also a number of canoes, decorated in similar fashion. It was just the kind of a campaign that would excite and enlist the enthusiasm of the inhabitants of Cass County, most of whom had been backwoodsmen all their lives. The opportunity of shouting and ultimately voting for someone who had started in life in the same humble manner as they was hailed with delight. However, with all their demonstrations, and the great popularity of their candidate, the Whigs were not able to carry the state. The state officers who were to be elected that year, the members for Congress, and also the county officers, were to be voted for in August, while the presidential election did not take place nntil November. Cass County elected John C. Scott and Marcus Chandler, two Whigs, connty commissioners, and assisted in electing Col. John T. Stuart again to Congress. In November they lost the state to Van Buren by a majority of

1,939, and the legislature was Democratic in both branches. Though grievously disappointed at their failure in the state, the Whigs were consoled by the fact that Van Buren had been defeated in the national election, and the detested policies of his predecessor, Jackson, repudiated. At the political rallies it was not always as peaceable as at religious gatherings of subsequent years. Many personal encounters occurred; and it is said that these were the result of the drinking of something stronger than hard cider.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADOPT PRICE SCHEDULE.

Whiskey and brandy were not expensive articles at that time, but were very common merchandise, although the prices for the same were fixed by the county board of commissioners. The year previous to this election, at the March term of the County Commissioners Court of Cass County, the following schedule of prices was adopted: For taverns, each meal of victuals, 30½ cents; each night's lodging 25 cents; keeping horses over night, 50 cents; feed for one horse 25 cents; one-half pint of whiskey, 12½ cents; one-half point of brandy, 25 cents; one-half pint of gin, 25 cents; one-half pint of wines, cordials, etc., 25 cents. At the same time rates of charges for the Beard ferry across the Illinois River were also established, and were as follows: Horse and carriage, 37½ cents; two-horse wagon, 50 cents; four-horse wagon, 75 cents; six-horse wagon, $1.00; man and horse, 25 cents; loose cattle, 6¼ cents; hogs, goats and sheep, 3 cents; each footman, the same as loose cattle. There is no doubt this high cost of living entered into the campaign, and was, by the Whigs, charged against the Van Buren administration. Lawyers, at least, might have had some legitimate grounds for complaint, when the fees received by them at that time are compared with fees paid lawyers of the present day. The County Commissioners' Court records show that at that term of their court which fixed the foregoing rates, they paid Hon. Stephen T. Logan $10 for appearing as counsel in three cases in the Circuit court.

Nothing of importance affecting Cass County occurred in the legislature elected in 1840. A petition was presented asking for the detaching of the "three-mile strip" from Morgan County and attaching it to Cass County, but little attention was given to it by the assembly. Col. West was not a candidate for re-election, and at the next election, which occurred in August, 1842, the Whigs were again successful, but by a greatly reduced majority. Henry E. Dummer, an excellent lawyer and a high class citizen, residing at Beardstown, was a candidate for state senator, but, although he beat his opponent in this county, was defeated in the district. John W. Pratt was elected to the legislature, and John Savage was elected as sheriff. W. H. H. Carpenter was elected to take the place of John W. Pratt as clerk of the County Commissioners' Court, the latter having been clerk of that body since the organization of Cass County. Robert Leeper, grandfather of Senator A. A. Leeper of Virginia, was elected county commissioner, beating his opponent, Marcus Chandler, by only four votes. The prize of political offering of that year most sought after appears to have been that of probate justice. There were five candidates. Dr. Harvey Tate had arrived in Cass County in the spring of 1841, and having finally settled down in Virginia, concluded he would like to add something to his income as a country physician, and gain the distinction conferred by the position of probate justice, and so entered himself in the race, but found a sturdy opponent in the person of Alexander Huffman, a pioneer farmer of Monroe Precinct. They were both Democrats, and as the Whigs had a full ticket otherwise, Robert G. Gaines, a Whig, became a candidate. Beardstown, seeing three candidates from the eastern part of the county, thought it a good time to get in, and so Ezra Dutch, of that town, who had been a sea captain for twenty-five years, sailed into the political sea, hoping to exchange his title of captain for that of probate judge. Then came John Richardson, last, and as it proved, least, in point of votes. He was a nondescript as far as his politics were concerned. At least his party affiliation is not known. These five patriotic men made a lively campaign which resulted in the farmer candidate, Alexander Huffman, being elected by a majority of eighty-two votes over the next nearest, who was Mr. Gaines. Dr. Tate was close after Mr. Gaines, there being only five votes difference between them. Captain Dutch received thirty-seven votes, and Mr. Richardson twenty-eight votes. The entire Democratic state ticket was elected by large majorities. Thomas Ford beat Governor Duncan, the Whig candidate, by nearly 8,000 votes. There were no congressmen elected at that

election. By an act of the assembly, March 1, 1843, the state was reapportioned and divided into seven districts. The popnlation of the state had reached 476,183, and that of Cass Connty had increased to 2,981, according to the censns of 1840. Stephen A. Donglas had moved from Jacksonville to Qnincy, and being placed in the fifth district, while Cass County was in the seventh, the people of this connty had no fnrther opportnnity to vote for Mr. Donglas nntil 1860, when he ran against Mr. Lincoln for president.

In the meanwhile Mr. Pratt took his seat in the legislature and there fonnd a friend and neighbor, David Epler, who had been elected as a representative from Morgan County, but who resided on his farm in the three-mile strip. At the next term they received reinforcements in the person of Francis Arenz, who also lived in the "strip" at Arenzville, an unincorporated village of his own making. That term bronght success to their labors, and the connty of Cass rejoiced then and ever after, that a great sonrce of wealth was added to the county in the shape of eighty square miles of as fine land as is to be met with in all of Illinois.

A CASS COUNTY PATRIOT.

Political affairs were attracting attention from the voters throughont the whole conntry. The Whigs had not redeemed their pre-election pledges; hard times had not disappeared as rapidly as had been promised, and the middle of the Tyler administration found the people as dissatisfied as ever. President Taylor had died within a short time after his inanguration, and the vice president, succeeding, had not carried out the policies of his predecessor. John J. Hardin of Jacksonville was the candidate of the Whigs for Congress in the seventh district under the new apportionment, and Cass County was a part of that district. The election was held in Augnst, 1843, and Hardin was the only Whig elected of the entire congressional delegation from the state. It was a noticeable fact that for several years the seventh district was the only one that could succeed in electing a Whig to Congress. Colonel Hardin served but one term, when the distinguished Edward D. Baker succeeded him. Baker was a Whig, and although the Whigs were opposed to the policy of the Democratic administration which, as they charged, nnnecessarily bronght on the war with Mexico, yet, when war was declared, Baker resigned from Congress, went home and raised a regiment and was commissioned its colonel. After the Mexican war, he moved to Galena, Ill., from which place he was sent to Congress. Later he moved to California, and then on np into Oregon, where he was again made a member of the national legislative body, this time being sent as a senator from the state of Oregon. While he was holding that position, the Civil war broke ont, and he again resigned, raised a regiment and was again commissioned a colonel. He immediately went to the front, but was killed at Ball's Blnff, October 20, 1861. Colonel Baker was well and favorably known to many Cass Connty people, who held him in high esteem. He was a member of the state legislature in 1837, which passed the act creating the connty of Cass.

In the meantime, however, a question of local interest was absorbing the attention of the voters of Cass County. An election had been called for September 4, 1843, in accordance with an act passed by the legislatnre for that purpose, to vote upon the qnestion of whether the county seat should or should not be moved to Beardstown. At that time, under the law, the recorder of deeds was elected as a separate and independent officer, and at the regular election held Angnst 7, of that year, Dr. M. H. L. Schooley of Virginia had beaten C. H. C. Havekluft, a young lawyer of Beardstown, for that office. This encouraged the citizens who were favorable to Virginia in the belief that they wonld be successfnl in the election on the county seat question, but in this they were greatly mistaken, for when the vote was taken, they found that Virginia had lost by a vote of 453 for removal to 288 against removal. This was a serious blow to Virginia, but it was not felt immediately, as Beardstown did not get ready to remove the records for some time. A conrthouse had to be built, which was done by Beardstown without cost to the county, in accordance with the promise of the Beardstown adherents made before the election, and in accordance with the provisions of the act calling the election. At the March term of the Commissioners' Court, 1845, the deed to the county was presented, showing the acquisition of the lots, and a certificate showing the completion of the jail and courthouse; and the records and archives of the county were removed to Beardstown, not to be returned to Virginia nntil 1875.



PARIS A. BRANDON

A period of general business depression followed in Virginia, and real estate values depreciated materially. Many merchants followed the seat of government to Beardstown, others went elsewhere, believing that Virginia had little prospect for future growth or prosperity. Dr. Schooley would not follow the recorder's office to Beardstown, as it was of little value to him financially, so he resigned, and the place was filled by Eli Wood, elected to fill the vacancy in 1845, who continued as the recorder until the constitution of 1848 abolished the office, and made the circuit clerk ex-officio recorder.

MORMON TROUBLE.

Another event in 1845 which brought some distinction to Beardstown, or, as the popular phrasing would express it, made it visible on the map, was the gathering there as a rendezvous of the state army under Brigadier General John J. Hardin, to march into Hancock County to quell the Mormon disturbance, designated in some histories as the Mormon war. Thomas Ford was then governor of the state, and felt, in his patriotic zeal, that duty called him to the front. He marched with a company of infantry and some artillery from Springfield to Beardstown, passing through Virginia, where he halted with his soldiers for the night. The infantry camped on the public square and the artillery on the brow of the hill a little east of the present site of the Christian church. The governor made the Dr. Pothicary tavern his headquarters, and the next day he and his soldiers moved on to the rendezvous at Beardstown. The Mormon disturbance did not last long enough to merit the name of war. A mob had attacked the jail at Carthage, in Hancock County, where Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet, had been placed, he having surrendered himself to the authorities to escape the citizens who had become incensed against him, largely on account of polygamous views held by the sect. Smith was killed, and the mob continued its attack upon his despised followers until the Mormons were driven out. Very few if any Mormons came into Cass County at that time. Some itinerant disseminators of the gospel of the Book of Mormon as interpreted by the Urim and Thummin occasionally found their way into Cass County, but an invitation to move on from the hardy orthodox pioneers was generally sufficient, and they "traveled" without taking any converts with them. Sylvester Emmons, a lawyer of Beardstown, finding the practice of the law not as remunerative as his needs in life required, concluded to engage in the newspaper business. For that purpose he went to Nauvoo, the Mormon stronghold, in the summer of 1845, and started an anti-Mormon weekly paper. He, however, published but one issue, when he precipitantly retired from that particular journalistic field, and returned to Beardstown. The Mormon troubles were the legitimate fruits of political pandering to a religious sect by the two dominant parties for its vote. Without any special provisions in the constitution, and without restriction upon the legislature in that respect, cities, villages or towns were granted charters with almost unlimited powers. Nor was it necessary, under our first constitution, that the subject of an act should be expressed in the title. The Twelfth General Assembly, that met in 1840, composed of Democrats and Whigs, passed with shameless unanimity an act granting to Nauvoo, or in reality, to Joseph Smith, a charter for the incorporation of Nauvoo as a city. The charter conferred power upon the mayor and city council to establish their own courts and militia, and to enable them to organize a government that would make them wholly independent of the state government. The driving out of the Mormons from Nauvoo, and the agitation of the subject of Mormonism, destroyed the influence of that sect in politics at least for years thereafter. It also caused a division in the church itself. A large body of the members who believed in polygamy went, under the leadership of Brigham Young, to Utah territory, and established Salt Lake City, while another, but much smaller body, went to Iowa, under the lead of Joseph Smith, a son of Joseph Smith killed at Nauvoo, and maintained the church organization of Latter Day Saints. They claimed to have abandoned polygamy. Joseph Smith, who claimed to be the organizer and head of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints, died at Independence, Mo., December 12, 1914. A few representatives of that church reside at Beardstown.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN DEFEATS PETER CARTWRIGHT FOR CONGRESS.

In 1842, John W. Pratt, of whom a biography previously appears in this work, had succeeded Colonel West in the legislature, and was re-

elected in 1844. He was an able representative, carefully attending to all the interests of his constituents, but his chief distinction was his securing for Cass County the three-mile strip. While his colleagues, David Epler and Francis Arenz, were exceptionally efficient as legislators, particularly in their assistance to Cass County, they were never really representatives of Cass, both being elected from Morgan County, and their terms expired before the election which gave Cass County its first representative after its enlargement. The Hon. Edward W. Turner was the first representative from Cass County after its present boundaries were fixed. Francis Arenz, who had been elected in 1844 as a Whig, was again nominated by that party in opposition to Mr. Turner, who was a Democrat. The previous general election, that of 1844, was a serious disappointment to the Whigs, the idol of that party, Henry Clay, having been defeated by James K. Polk on the issue of the annexation of Texas. In that year the small cloud which had appeared in the east during the election of 1840, in the form of the Free Soil party, or the Liberal party, was growing portentous. It had nominated James G. Birney for the second time for the presidency, and although that party never succeeded in electing a state or congressional officer, or secured a single electoral vote for its candidates for the presidency, yet it was recruiting to the abolition or anti-slavery cause so rapidly from the Whig ranks that it foreshadowed the ultimate extinction of that party. There was, however, a full state and county Whig ticket arrayed against a full Democratic ticket in Cass County in 1846. Upon that ticket were some persons well known then, who afterwards became distinguished. On the Democratic ticket appeared the name of Augustus C. French for governor, and the eccentric and famous politician-preacher, Rev. Peter Cartwright, as a candidate for Congress. The candidates for the county offices were: sheriff, W. J. De Haven; coroner, Harvey Springer; county commissioner, Thomas Plasters. On the Whig ticket, for governor was Thomas M. Kilpatrick of Scott County, who had served three successive terms in the state senate; and for Congress was Abraham Lincoln. On the county ticket were: sheriff, John Savage; coroner, James Logan; county commissioner, Henry McHenry. Cass County gave a majority for the Whig candidates, but the Democrats elected their candidate for governor and member of the legislature. Notwithstanding the popularity and wide acquaintance of Rev. Peter Cartwright, he was beaten for Congress by Abraham Lincoln. They had both been in the legislature from Sangamon County, and this was the first venture of either in national politics, except that Mr. Lincoln had been a candidate for presidential elector in 1844, on the ticket with Henry Clay, and been defeated. The elections during all of the time under the first constitution were without ballots, each voter stepping up to the polls and announcing how or for whom he wished to vote, and the election officers recorded the vote then and there. It was no secret, of course, how anyone voted, and at the election of 1846, William Holmes, who had been the first representative from Cass County, and a lifelong Whig, voted for Cartwright, the Democrat, against Lincoln, on the Whig ticket. For this act of party treason, he was roundly abused by the leaders of the Whigs in Cass County. Mr. Holmes justified his vote on the grounds that he did not personally like Mr. Lincoln, and the Rev. Cartwright was a personal friend and a frequent visitor at his home when on his preaching itinerary. Mr. Lincoln, however, was elected to Congress, and Cass County residents will always look upon it as a distinctive honor that they were represented in the national Congress by him. On the same day that Cass County was created a county by the legislature of this state, March 3, 1837, Abraham Lincoln, a member of that legislature, filed his protest against slavery, by resolutions, and had them spread upon the records of the House of Representatives. Cass County people feel that this is another tie binding them with Illinois' most illustrious and best man.

The entire county Whig ticket was elected, but Francis A. Arenz, the Whig candidate for the legislature, was defeated by Edward W. Turner, a Democrat.

At the election the question as to whether or not a constitutional convention should be called was put before the people. The proposition to hold the convention carried by a large majority. The next spring, Judge Henry E. Summer, of Beardstown, was elected a delegate to that convention, which met June 7, 1847, and concluded its labors August 31, 1847. The new constitution was submitted to the people and ratified by them at a special election held March 6, 1848, and it went into effect April 1 of that

year, and hence is known as the Constitution of 1848.

BIOGRAPHY OF JUDGE HENRY E. DUMMER.

Judge Henry E. Dummer was the only delegate from Cass County to any of the constitutional conventions held in this state. He was born at Hallowell, Me., April 9, 1808, and attended and was graduated from Bowdoin College, later took a law course at the Cambridge Law School, and was admitted to the bar and practiced for two years in his native state before he came to Springfield, Ill., where he formed a partnership with John T. Stuart. In 1838 he dissolved the partnership, and moved to Beardstown, where he remained until 1864, serving the city as an alderman, was also probate justice for Cass County, and served in the state senate for four years, having been elected during the trying period of 1860. Formerly a Whig, he became a Republican, and was a staunch supporter of Governor Richard Yates, the great "war governor" of Illinois. In 1864 he was made a delegate at large for the state to the Baltimore convention that renominated President Lincoln. An excellent lawyer and honorable man, he was a highly respected citizen of Cass County. In 1864 he removed to Jacksonville, where he continued in practice of his profession, but his health failing in 1878, he went to Mackinac, Mich. The change of climate did not avail, however, and he died at that place August 12, 1878, aged seventy years three months and three days.

CHAPTER XIII.

POLITICAL REPRESENTATION (CONTINUED).

AFTER THE MEXICAN WAR—GENERAL TAYLOR A PUBLIC HERO—NOMINATED AND ELECTED PRESIDENT—GEN. LEWIS CASS THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE—VIGOROUS WHIG CAMPAIGN IN 1848—QUESTION OF SLAVERY COMES TO THE FRONT—CAMPAIGN OF 1852—ELECTION OF FRANKLIN PIERCE—DISAPPEARANCE OF WHIG PARTY—A STRINGENT LIQUOR LAW—STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS RE-ELECTED TO THE SENATE—THE KANSAS-NEBRASKA BILL UNPOPULAR IN CASS—BILLS PASSED IN THE LEGISLATURE THROUGH THE ACTIVITY OF DR. SAMUEL CHRISTY—PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY—NOMINATION OF LINCOLN AND DOUGLAS FOR THE UNITED STATES SENATE—GREAT JOINT DEBATE OF CANDIDATES—INTERESTING DETAILS—NEWSPAPER REPORTS—RE-ELECTION OF MR. DOUGLAS IN 1859—CAMPAIGN OF 1860—A VERY INTERESTING BIT OF LOCAL HISTORY—HENRY CLAY'S OWN STORY—GOVERNOR YATES PROROGUES THE LEGISLATURE—KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE—RETURN OF PEACE—FURTHER CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION—A POLITICAL SIDE LIGHT—CAMPAIGNS OF 1888 AND 1892—GRANDPA'A HAT—FREE SILVER CAMPAIGN—CASS COUNTY IN CONGRESS—REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LEGISLATURE.

AFTER THE MEXICAN WAR.

The citizens of Cass County soon adjusted themselves to the changes in political affairs with the adoption of the second constitution of the state, which went into force and effect April 1, 1848. The Whigs had been in the ascendancy, but the margin was growing dangerously small, and the opposition to the Mexican war manifested by the Whigs as a party had not added anything to the popularity of it, especially as the war had been prosecuted to a successful conclusion in a very short period. One result from the war was wholly unlooked for by the Whigs. Gen. Zachary Taylor, who had become the most conspicuous figure in that war, was the popular public hero at the close of the conflict, and was, by the Whigs, taken as their candidate for the presidency. The administration in power at Washington was Democratic, under the leadership of President Polk, who had beaten Henry Clay, the Whig idol, in 1844, and this administration made every effort to create a Democratic hero out of the participants in the Mexican war so that the party might be ready with a suitable candidate to succeed President Polk, who had given his word that he would not be a candidate for re-election. The people could not be deceived as to who was the real hero of the war, and adhered in their devotion and popular admiration for General Taylor, "old Rough and Ready," as the soldiers serving under him called him. Thus, in spite of the fact that Gen. Taylor was not favorably received by the leaders of the Whig party

who looked upon themselves as the only simon-pure statesmen, he was nominated by that party, with Millard Fillmore for vice president, as the standard bearer in the presidential contest of 1848. The Democrats nominated Gen. Lewis Cass of Michigan for president, and William O. Butler of Kentucky for vice president. Gen. Cass, a man of high character, had been governor of Michigan territory, five years secretary of war, under President Jackson, and had been minister to France. He had served creditably in the war of 1812, but was not regarded highly as a military man, and his friends and the party newspapers supporting the administration tried the absurd expedient of making him out a military hero to offset the great popularity of General Taylor, but this movement, of course, resulted in a flat failure. Cass was badly beaten, even in Cass County, that had been named for him, he there receiving 724 votes to 761 for Taylor.

VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN IN 1848.

The presidential campaign of 1848 was vigorously conducted. There were but two papers then published in the county, the Gazette, of Beardstown, and the Observer, of Virginia, the former a Whig organ, and the latter a Democratic one. Sylvester Emmons conducted the Gazette, and, being a very able writer, made an irresistible onslaught on General Cass and the Democratic measures, especially the tariff. The greater number of the county officers elected in Cass County that fall were of the Whig party. Richard S. Thomas, a distinguished resident of Virginia, was elected to the General Assembly, being the first representative of the new district formed under the new constitution, comprising Cass and Menard counties. Thomas L. Harris, a Democrat, residing at Petersburg, beat Stephen T. Logan, a Whig and an able lawyer, for Congress by a majority of six in Cass County. At that same election, Jesse Crews, of Oregon Precinct, was elected coroner on the Whig ticket, without opposition. He was the father of Thomas M., John and Jess Crews of Oregon Precinct, and grandfather of Charles Crews, who, as a young man, clerked for W. B. Payne in the dry goods store on the south side of the public square, in Virginia, and is now a wealthy merchant of Pueblo, Colo. James Shaw was elected county judge, being the first under the new arrangement provided in the constitution of 1848, and he was succeeded by John A. Arenz, also a Whig, in 1852. Judge Arenz was a brother of Francis Arenz, born in Blankenburg, Province of the Rhine, Prussia, October 28, 1810. He was a highly educated man, a graduate of the seminary at Bruhl, near Cologne, and came to America in 1835, locating at Beardstown. He first engaged with his brother, Francis A. Arenz, subsequently in various lines of business, and held office as justice of the peace, notary public and mayor of Beardstown. During the campaign of 1844 he lived at Springfield, Ill., and conducted a newspaper in the German language, in the interest of Henry Clay for the presidency. Judge Arenz was returned to the county judgeship in 1865, having in March of that year been admitted to the bar as an attorney-at-law. He lived to be eighty-seven years and ten months old, and died at his home in Beardstown, highly respected by men of every party and faith.

Political events crowded on rapidly. The question of slavery forged to the front, precipitated by the efforts of California to be admitted as a free state in 1850, and also by the proposition to create two new territories out of the acquisitioned land resulting from the war with Mexico. The compromise measure presented by Clay, and called by its opponents in derision the "Omnibus Bill," which provided that California should be admitted as a free state; that the new territories of Utah and New Mexico should be formed without any provision concerning slavery; that $10,000,000 should be paid to Texas to yield its claim to New Mexico; that the slave trade should be abolished in the District of Columbia, and that a fugitive slave law should be enacted, was, after bitter debate, finally adopted. The anti-slavery party would not accept the compromise and began to form a new political party to which they invited all anti-slavery voters. The Democrats and Whigs in their party assembly each declared they stood by the compromise, and selected their candidates for the presidency for the campaign of 1852. The Democrats presented Franklin Pierce, and the Whigs, Gen. W. S. Scott, while the Free Soilers nominated John P. Hale of New Hampshire. The election was practically one-sided, Pierce carrying all but four of the states, and the Whig party disappeared forever from the political arena.

A STRINGENT LIQUOR LAW.

The voters of Cass County had been as much and as deeply interested as were the people of



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, VIRGINIA



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, VIRGINIA



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, VIRGINIA



CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY
Later Union College, Virginia, Built in 1853-54, Taken Down in 1893



LIPPINCOTT MEMORIAL HALL

Erected by the Inmates of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home in memory of General Charles E. Lippincott and wife of Chandlerville, the First Governor and Matron of the Home.



CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, VIRGINIA

Now used as the Women's Club Room

any section of the country; they had ably debated every phase and element of the compromise, at the crossroads store and upon the street corners, and in every convenient and inconvenient place; and each side had carried off the trophies of victory, and were now willing to lay the matter aside and devote their attention to matters of more local concern. Rev. Cyrus Wright, a "regular" Baptist preacher, had been elected to represent the two counties of the Twenty-fifth district, Cass and Menard, in the Eighteenth General Assembly. The previous legislature, in which Cass County did not have a local representative, had passed a stringent liquor law, prohibiting the sale of liquor in less quantities than one quart. The Eighteenth assembly repealed the law, the Rev. Mr. Wright voting for the repeal, he having in the pre-election campaign warned his constituents that he would so vote. It is affirmed that he said, though, that while he was in favor of the repeal of the law, he did not see why, if a person wanted liquor at all, he should want less than a quart. That legislature also passed the famous Black laws, and two other important acts, one for the incorporation of the State Agricultural Society, and one providing for the election of a state superintendent of public instruction. That legislature in the senate was composed of twenty Democrats and five Whigs; in the house, fifty-nine Democrats, sixteen Whigs and one Free Soiler. Hon. Stephen A. Douglas was re-elected to the United States Senate. He had no sooner been apprised of his election than he sprung upon an unsuspecting public his "Kansas-Nebraska Bill," which, by the doctrine it embodied upon the slavery question, and which Mr. Douglas denominated "squatter sovereignty," abolished the Missouri Compromise of 1820, and the more recent compromise of 1850. The anti-slavery people had peacefully retired at night resting in the belief that slavery had been placed, by the last compromise, where it was in the course of ultimate extinction, and arose to find that the senator from Illinois, described by an able Democratic writer of the time as the "most consummate demagogue of the age," had, by the introduction of his wholly uncalled for measure, shattered all their hopes of peace and quiet over this most irritating and dangerous question; and had again aroused the people from one end of the country to the other to the highest pitch of excitement. Senator Douglas had many staunch personal friends in Cass County, but a number of them parted from him politically on this question, while others stood by him loyally. The bill was debated with energy and great rancor, both in and out of Congress, and was delayed for several months before it came up for final action. In the meantime the people of Cass County had troubles of their own. Representative Wright had secured the passage of an act for the submission of a vote upon the question of the removal of the county seat from Beardstown to Virginia, at an election to be held the first Monday of November, 1853. The vote was taken as provided, and resulted in favor of leaving the county seat at Beardstown, by a very decided majority.

THE KANSAS-NEBRASKA BILL.

On May 30, 1854, the Kansas-Nebraska Bill reached a final vote in the national Congress, and was passed, and the "irrepressible conflict" was on. More than forty Democrats from the North defied party discipline and voted against the bill. Senator Douglas by his masterly intellect and great force of character had won the sobriquet of "Little Giant," and Samson-like, he had thrown open flood-gates which he could not close. He came home to Illinois to defend his position, which was apparently defenseless; the people of Chicago practically denied him a hearing. He traveled over the state, speaking in every congressional district, and then it was that Abraham Lincoln, who had been in retirement politically, since his return from Congress, was now called out to discuss the all-absorbing question. The campaign that fall was but the forerunner of the great debate which occurred two years later.

Cass County had no representative in the General Assembly which convened in January of 1855, the nomination in this district having gone to Menard County, which selected S. D. Masters, an anti-Nebraska Democrat. The unpopularity of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill was evidenced by the fact that the legislature, which at the previous session was more than two-thirds Democratic, now was in control of the anti-slavery forces, and succeeded in electing Hon. Lyman Trumbull, an anti-Nebraska Democrat, to the United States Senate. The next year the Republican party was organized and nominated a full state ticket, which was successful at the polls in November, but its candi-

date for the presidency was defeated by James Buchanan, the Democratic candidate. Dr. Samuel Christy, of Lancaster Precinct, Cass County, was elected to the General Assembly. The legislature convened January 5, 1857, and adjonrned February 19, 1857. Althongh the state administration was Republican, with Gov. W. H. Bissell at its head, the legislature was Democratic in both branches. Dr. Christy was a Democrat of the most pronounced type, and was an active member of the assembly. Dnring the short session he secnred the passage of bills in which Cass Connty was directly interested, as follows:

To extend the jurisdiction of jnstices of the peace and police magistrates in Cass County; to incorporate the Virginia Cemetery in Cass Connty; to amend the charter of the upper and lower Mississippi Railroad Company; to amend the act to construct a railroad from Jacksonville, in Morgan County, to La Salle, in La Salle County; to incorporate the Virginia Female Seminary of Providence Presbyterian Church of Cass County; to incorporate the Cass County Fair Ground Association; for the relocation of the connty seat of Cass County; to incorporate the town of Virginia, in Cass County.

PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY.

Dr. Christy was born at Greenville, Mercer County, Pa., May 6, 1813. He secured such an ednc̈ation as he could in the country schools of his native county, and when he arrived at manhood, began to teach in the schools in the country regions. He later attended Jefferson College, Philadelphia, Pa., as a medical student, and received a diploma from that institntion in the spring of 1836. He settled at Lexington, Mo., in 1838, but remained there but a few years, when he removed to Fnlton County, Ill., and practiced his profession for about nine years. In 1849 he came to Beardstown and bought a drug store, but in 1851, tiring of the confinement, he purchased a farm, in the eastern part of Cass County, to which place he moved in 1852. It was the farm for many years known as the William Mains farm, about one mile east of the hamlet of Philadelphia, and was then about the center of Lancaster Precinct. There the Doctor acquired a fairly good practice, and might have made an exceptional success of his profession, had he not branched off into state politics. The sum total of his success in the latter line was one term in the legislatnre. Dr. Christy was a strong man physically and mentally, and a fairly good physician, bnt his unnecessary espousal of the southern canse and his disloyal utterances so estranged him from his neighbors, who had always held him in high esteem as a man and physician, that at the close of the Civil war, he found the neighborhood no longer congenial, and having tired of the drudgery of the practice of a country physician, he resolved to remove to Iowa, purchase a farm and abandon the medical profession. This he did, selling his Cass County farm to William Mains, and removing with his family in the fall of 1865, to Mills Connty, Iowa, where he purchased a farm and followed agricultnre. He lived there until the morning of his seventy-fourth birthday, May 6, 1887, when he expired very suddenly.

As 1857 was an off year in national and state politics, and all other excitements having been allayed, the people of Cass County again indulged in the interesting pastime of holding a county seat election. The vote this year was taken at an election held for this purpose on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November, 1857. There was also submitted to the voters that year, two other propositions, one, which was voted upon in August, was whether or not the county should subscribe for $50,000 of bonds of the Keokuk & Warsaw Railroad Company, and the other, which was voted upon in November, was as to whether or not the county should adopt township organization. The result of the vote was the defeat of all three propositions, Beardstown still retaining the county seat. The election also disclosed the most wonderful increase in population in the town of Beardstown ever known in any town, village or city. The entire vote of the county one year previonsly, at the presidential election, was but 1665, while the vote of Beardstown on the question of the removal of the county seat at this special election was nearly double what it was the year previous. This natnrally led to charges of fraud, but no one saw fit to contest the election.

NOMINATION OF LINCOLN AND DOUGLAS.

The Whigs of Cass County had nearly all gone into the new Republican party and were eagerly watching the movements of the leaders

as they lined up for the campaign of that year, when a legislature was to be elected which should return a United States senator to succeed Senator Douglas. Cass County had no candidate for the assembly on either ticket, but each party had a full county ticket. Douglas and Lincoln were each nominated in convention of their respective parties as candidates for the United States senate, although there could be, under the law at that time, no direct vote for the candidates for senator. Each candidate had made a number of speeches in various parts of the state, and a series of joint debates had been arranged to begin at Ottawa. In the interim, each candidate had his time to himself to speak at such points as he or his political managers might think most important. Cass County was not favored with one of the joint debates, but it had the next thing to it; both candidates spoke in the county before the first joint debate. Beardstown was, in 1858, the most important point in the county, and was also a leading business locality for a large territory, railroads being few in number in the country, and there were none in Cass County. Its situation on the river, making it easily accessible by steamer, was a considerable factor in determining its prominence. Both Mr. Lincoln and Senator Douglas concluded to hold meetings at Beardstown. The date selected by the Douglas party was August 11, 1858, and August 12, 1858, by the Republicans. There is no doubt that both these meetings were great successes; that they were attended by thousands of people, for by that time the greatest excitement had been worked up; the whole United States was looking on and the metropolitan newspapers were giving considerable attention and space to the coming debates.

INTERESTING DETAILS.

Concerning the meetings articles appeared in the Springfield, Ill., papers, the Register and the Journal, but, being partisan, each praised the one meeting and belittled the other. The speeches of neither Lincoln nor Douglas are found in either paper. The Register, speaking of the Douglas meeting, says there were 5,000 people present; that it was one of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings ever held in central Illinois; that hundreds and thousands came from the neighboring counties; and it meant that at the November election the Democrats would carry the county by at least 500 majority. The meeting was covered by a reporter who was evidently an expert, one who was following Douglas in the interests of the Democratic party. He says, in his report, that after noon the delegation came in from Virginia, and with it were two wagons joined together filled with young ladies dressed in white representing the States of the Union; that one of the banners carried by the Virginia delegation had a picture of a lion standing squarely on four feet, with head up proudly, and the left hind foot reaching back and pressing to the ground the squirming form of a mangy cur. In speaking of the Lincoln meeting, which occurred the following day, a very contemptuous attitude is seen, characterizing it as a flat failure, and a very insignificant crowd, and hardly worthy of any consideration. On the other hand, the Sangamon Journal speaks of the Lincoln meeting as a very enthusiastic gathering at which 3,000 people were present, and states that Mr. Lincoln came in from Naples and Meredosia on the steamer, Sam Gatty; that there was a great parade headed by two military companies of Beardstown, the "Independents," and the "City Guards," that J. McClean was marshal of the day. Mr. Lincoln and the committee stopped at the National Hotel, and after dinner came the speaking at the park. On the speaker's stand were Dr. Pothicary, William Cole, Jacob Bergen, Edward Collins, Horace Billings, William Chase, E. C. Sacket and Charles Rich. Mr. Rich introduced Mr. Lincoln, as he was a representative man, a member of the large mercantile firm of Rich, Chase & Co., of Beardstown. The paper further says Mr. Lincoln made an able and vigorous speech which was received with great enthusiasm. In speaking of the Douglas meeting, the Journal says it was a failure; that one of the wagons in the parade broke down and everybody became disgusted; that there was little or no enthusiasm except that produced by the liquor dealt out. It further says that Douglas was greatly disgruntled and disappointed, and that he had to seek his boat on foot and alone when he left the next morning. While at Beardstown, Mr. Lincoln was induced to have a photograph made. Felix Kesler was the photographer, and made the negative. A reproduction of that picture appears on another page of this work, and it is very interesting to this section historically from the fact that it was taken in Cass County. The cam-

paign of these great leaders will not be followed further, interesting as it was, and productive of very important results. Suffice to say, that it was conducted with great enthusiasm and excitement throughout the length and breadth of the state, and when the election was held it was found that the Democrats had elected a majority of their candidates to the legislature and upon joint ballot on January 6, 1859, Mr. Douglas was again elected to the United States senate. The popular vote, however, showed the Republicans to be in the majority. Cass County elected the Democratic candidates to the local offices by about the same narrow majority they had at the election in 1856.

The campaign of 1860 was, if anything, more exciting than that of 1858, and in Cass as much so as anywhere else. Henry E. Dummer, a distinguished lawyer of Beardstown, was nominated by the Whigs for state senator, and Henry Phillips, who, in later years, became county judge and master-in-chancery of the county, made his first appearance in politics. At the Democratic county convention in June of that year, he was nominated for circuit clerk over Knowlton H. Chandler. Judge Phillips was an able speaker, and made an active canvass, not only for himself, but for the Douglas Democratic ticket. Phillips was elected and in 1864 succeeded himself, holding the office until 1868. Judge Phillips is still living at Beardstown, and is now the master-in-chancery of the city court of that city and of the Circuit Court of Cass County. Judge Dummer was elected as a Republican to the senate for a four year term, ending in 1864. A biographical notice of Judge Dummer is given elsewhere in this work. The presidential vote shows that the Douglas Democrats received 1308 votes, and the Republican ticket received 1039 in Cass County. The election was held November 6, 1860. The Democrats continued to have a majority in the county, and elected their local ticket until 1872, when a division arose between the east and west end of the county over the county seat question when George Volkmer of Beardstown was elected sheriff, and Albert F. Arenz of the west part of the county was elected circuit clerk, both on the Republican ticket.

During the first five years following 1860, local matters were largely absorbed in the interest and excitement attendant upon the Civil war, which broke upon the nation with the firing upon Fort Sumter on April 14, 1861. Public excitement was at fever heat. Patriotism was aroused as it had never been before; party lines were broken down, and with few exceptions the people were actuated by a common sentiment of patriotism. Cass County residents at once began the formation of companies of soldiers and tendered them for service in defense of the Union. All of this military history is given elsewhere.

INTERESTING BIT OF LOCAL HISTORY.

An incident arose in 1863 which merits consideration. The constitution of 1848 had an article which had been submitted to the voters as a separate provision, providing that the General Assembly should, at its first session under the amended constitution, pass such laws as would effectually prohibit free persons of color from emigrating to and settling in this state, and to prevent owners of slaves from bringing them into the state for the purpose of setting them free. Cass County voted in favor of that article, but not by as large a majority as for the constitution itself. The legislature did not, however, pass such laws at the first session thereafter, but it did enact a law on the subject as has been stated, in 1853. This law provided that if any persons brought into this state a negro or mulatto slave, whether set free or not, should be liable to indictment and fine of not less than $100, nor more than $500, and be imprisoned in the county jail for one year; and further provided, in a subsequent section, that if any negro or mulatto, bond or free, should hereafter come into the state and remain more than ten days, with the evident intention of residing in same, should be fined upon conviction before a justice of the peace, $50, but the negro had the right of appeal to the Circuit court on giving bond with security, in double the amount of the fine, and costs, etc., with provisions for the manner of collecting the fines, and for second offenses, etc. Cass County has never had any negro population to speak of, seven being the highest number of colored persons ever reported by the census, that was for 1840. Therefore little attention was here paid to the Black laws as they were called.

In July, 1862, the Seventy-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry was mustered into service as a three-months regiment. William H. Weaver, of Beardstown, was elected captain of Company G, and Thomas B. Collins of Virginia, was made



L Bowes

lieutenant of the same company. Quite a number of Cass County men were enlisted in this company, whose names appear in the roster given elsewhere. This regiment was sent to Cairo, Ill., and to points in Kentucky, and after serving its time out, returned to Chicago and was mustered out. While in the South, a negro boy, named Henry Clay, became attached to Captain Weaver as a servant, and with him and Lieutenant Collins went to Chicago. When Collins was about to return home, the boy begged to be taken along. Lieutenant Collins, who, perhaps in his country home, in Cass County, where there were no negroes, had never heard of the law against negroes coming into the county or state, and being a very kind-hearted man, took the homeless black boy with him. He had not been at home long before a few of that class of citizens who may well be suspected of not being courageous enough to have gone into the South to assist their southern friends in the prosecution of the Rebellion, nor loyal enough to enlist in the Union army for the suppression of that rebellion, and heartily disliked any who did so, soon noised it abroad that a negro had been brought into the state against the law; that Lieutenant Collins was the guilty violator of the law. So a complaint was procured, and the boy was charged with violating the state law above mentioned; Henry Clay, on December 11, 1862, was arrested at the home of Mr. Collins and brought to trial at Beardstown, and convicted, but appealed to the Circuit court.

At the March term of the Circuit court of Cass County, held at Beardstown, in March, 1863, the grand jury found an indictment against Thomas Byron Collins, for a violation of another one of the Black laws passed in 1845, which forbids the harboring of negroes or black persons, Judge Harriett being on the bench. He fixed the bail bond at $100. The writ for the arrest of Collins was not issued for some time, as he was away at the front, in the service of his country, and when he returned home, the boy was gone and no further attention was paid to the case, and was, when brought up at court, dismissed. Several versions of the story of the prosecution of the boy, Henry Clay, and the sequel have been printed, even the metropolitan press getting hold of it and publishing an account. These accounts do not differ very materially, for, of course, the foundation for them all is the record on file in the clerk's office in Cass County, but through the efforts of Hon. J. N. Gridley, of Pomona, Cal., while he was yet a citizen of Cass County, the boy, Henry Clay, was traced and found to be in the Soldiers' Home at Danville, Ill. From him, through the assistance of the secretary of the governor of the home, an account of the affair was obtained which Mr. Gridley published in his historical sketches of Cass County, along with the accounts of the same affair by others, who were more or less cognizant of the facts. The account by Henry Clay himself, which appears to be unbiased and unprejudiced, and withal a simple, pathetic story of the life of one whose sole crime or misdemeanor was that of having a black skin, and having been born in slavery, is given as follows:

HENRY CLAY'S OWN STORY.

Says Henry Clay: "I was born in Moscow, Ky., on the 3rd day of March, 1839, and belonged as a slave to a family by the name of Tichworth, and was employed about the place as a house boy. I lived in Moscow until the breaking out of the Civil war, when I ran away and became a servant for officers of the Tenth Illinois Infantry. I was taken with a number of men of that regiment as a prisoner and the Confederate troops put me to work building breastworks, etc. I later got away and then became a servant for Capt. William H. Weaver and Lieut. Thomas B. Collins of Company G, Seventy-first Illinois Infantry. I remained with these officers and accompanied the regiment to Chicago where it was mustered out in the fall of 1862. Being without a home I requested Lieut. Collins, who had been very kind to me, to take me home with him. This he did and I remained with him and his family for some time, working about the place for which work he paid me. Some time during that winter the sheriff accompanied by two men came to the Collins home and placed me under arrest. The sheriff remained at the Collins home over night and the next morning we started to Beardstown accompanied, as I now remember, by Mr. Collins, his wife, his sister, Miss Emma Collins, Dr. Pothicary and some others, whose names I cannot now recall. At one point in the road the sheriff and Dr. Pothicary had some discussion as to the proper way to go, my friends thinking that some harm might come to me by going in the direction the sheriff desired to take me. The sheriff finally consented

and we went the way Dr. Pothicary suggested. When we arrived at Beardstown it was quite late and I was kept in the sheriff's house all night. The trial was held before a justice of the peace and Judge Dummer defended me. I do not remember the results of the trial further than that I was turned over to the care of Dr. Pothicary who gave bond or did something to get me out, and I returned to the Collins home and continued working about the place during the remainder of the winter. Some time during the spring of the year, I cannot tell just what time, but the corn was about 18 to 20 inches high, a mob came to the Collins place and tried to take me away. Mrs. Collins and her daughter hid me out from the house in a field and I remained there until the mob left. Dr. Pothicary then took me to Springfield and put me in the care of a family by the name of Donnegan. These people were from Kentucky. I worked at odd jobs until the Twenty-ninth regiment of colored troops was organized, when I went to Quincy and enlisted in D company of that regiment on the 12th day of January, 1864, and served until the end of the war. I was twice wounded, once at Petersburg and once at Danville, Va. After being mustered out I returned to Illinois and went to Jacksonville, where I drove a 'bus for awhile and later purchased a team and 'bus of my own and engaged in business for myself. I remained at Jacksonville until 1885, when I sold out there and moved to Chicago and engaged in the livery business. I remained in that business until about the first of January, 1904, at which time I was compelled to close out my business on account of ill health and I came to the National Soldiers' Home, at Danville."

GOVERNOR YATES PROROGUE OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The legislature of 1861 had passed a new apportionment act providing for twenty-five senatorial districts, and eighty-five representative districts, and placed Cass County and Brown County together to form the Twenty-fifth District, and having one representative. The change made by the apportionment of 1854 had left Cass and Menard counties together as one district, having changed the number to that of thirty-four. The original number was twenty-five. This act of 1861 changed us back to number twenty-five but placed us with Brown instead of Menard, and this was the only time Cass and Menard have not been associated in the same representative district, prior to or since that time. At an election in 1862, James M. Epler, a lawyer of Beardstown, was chosen to represent this district in the lower house. Both houses of that legislature were Democratic and elected William A. Richardson, a Democrat, to fill the vacancy in the United States senate caused by the death of Stephen A. Douglas. But little else was done. This was the legislature whose wrangle over political resolutions and disagreement over the time of adjournment brought on the famous action of Governor Yates in proroguing the legislature. The ordinary appropriations were not made by that legislature, and the state government had to depend upon banks and capitalists to advance the necessary funds for current expenses.

KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE.

In the fall of 1863, a little incident occurred which interested Cass County people, especially the "copperhead" element, as it was called. The Knights of the Golden Circle, a society formed in certain of the central western states for the purpose, as alleged, of resisting the draft, but, in fact, for the purpose of harrassing the government and all loyal people in any manner possible. There were at least two bands of the society in Cass County. The government made diligent efforts to obtain the secrets of the order, and succeeded so that at no time was the society very dangerous to the welfare of the state or national government. It was claimed that a man of Meredosia had, after joining the order, gone to Springfield and revealed the secrets of the society. A resident of Beardstown Precinct, who had at one time been a constable, and was also a "Knight," after having heard of the so-called treachery of the Meredosia man, was one day standing on the depot platform of the Wabash Railroad, at Jacksonville, when a westbound train came in. He noticed the Meredosia man sitting by an open window, and waiting until the train started he attempted to jerk the "traitor" as he regarded him, out of the window. He did not succeed and the other returned to his home at Meredosia, and had a warrant issued for his assailant who was arrested and taken to Jacksonville for trial. In the meanwhile, in order to stir up an excitement, the "Knights" circulated the report that the Cass County man

was to be dragged off by the military authorities and tried by court martial at Springfield, or some other place, away from the scene of the offense. Nothing of the kind was thought of by the authorities, but a large number of the "Knights" gathered, and with arms, such as old rusty muskets, rifles, shot guns, etc., proceeded to Jacksonville, but they took great care to conceal their weapons in the outskirts of the city before entering. The excitement caused by the various stories circulated, naturally drew a great many people to Jacksonville, who were in no way connected with the "Knights" order, but, like poor old dog Tray, being in bad company, their names got mingled with those who were actually members of the so-called traitorous order. This fact has been used to give some little respectability to this order, by citing that some very responsible persons were among the "raiders." As a matter of fact the so-called "raid" was a fiasco, and was not mentioned except casually for many years, and in later times when the odium attached to the order had somewhat disappeared, it was only referred to in derision or jest. The case was called and heard in the regular way, the defendant waiving examination, gave bond for his appearance at the Circuit court, but no bill was ever found against him, and the case was dismissed.

RETURN OF PEACE.

James M. Epler was not elected to the next assembly which was the twenty-fourth, but in 1866, was again chosen from Cass County. Two years later he was elected to the state senate from Morgan County, having removed from Beardstown to Jacksonville. Judge Dummer had moved from Beardstown to Jacksonville two years previously, and Garland Pollard had removed from Beardstown to St. Louis. The war over, matters began to assume a peaceful and quiet aspect in Cass County. Population had greatly increased in the central and eastern parts of the county, while it appeared that Beardstown was retrograding. River traffic had been largely displaced by the numerous railroads built through the country, none of which had yet reached Beardstown, although strenuous efforts had been made in that direction. Financial matters were in a chaotic condition, the Leonard Bank, the only one at Beardstown, had made a disastrous failure, and altogether the future of the capital city of Cass County was not very promising. Virginia adherents, taking advantage of the conditions, again sought a vote upon the removal of the county seat. An act of the legislature had been procured, passed February 14, 1867, which provided for a vote to be taken on the second Tuesday of April of that year. A history of this interesting contest is given elsewhere in this work, which finally culminated in the removal of the capital to Virginia.

FURTHER CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION.

The legislature of 1859 had submitted a proposition to the people calling a third constitutional convention. The proposition was endorsed by vote of the people at the election of 1860, and in November, 1861, an election for choosing delegates was held. By this time excitement was intense over the war, and many of the state's best and ablest men were at the front and little attention was given to the selection of delegates to the constitutional convention which assembled January 7, 1862, but a majority of the delegates refused to take the oath prescribed by the act creating the body, that they would support the state constitution. They attempted to assume absolute control over the affairs of the state, demanding certain information of the governor wholly foreign to their rights and duties pertaining to the purpose for which they were elected. Their conduct so incensed the people, that although the draft of a new constitution contained many excellent provisions, yet, when submitted to the people for ratification, at an election held June 17, 1862, it was rejected by a large majority. No further attempt to revise the constitution of 1848 was made for nearly ten years. The war had closed, two amendments had been made to the federal constitution and the legislature of 1867 again submitted a proposition to the people, and a constitutional convention was called, but it was by the extremely narrow vote of 704 majority. The convention was held and the draft of the constitution as adopted by the convention, was submitted to a vote of the people and ratified at an election held July 6, 1870, and it went into force August 8, following. There was a new apportionment and redistricting of the state under the provisions of the new constitution. Cass and Menard counties were again placed together to form one district, and numbered fifty-four. At the election in November of that year, William W. Easley, of Virginia, was elected as the first

representative from Cass under the new constitution. A number of changes have since been made by the various legislatures in arranging districts under various apportionments, mostly actuated by a desire to gain some political advantage in the reformation of districts. Cass County has fared no worse, and certainly no better, than other counties in that regard.

Under the new constitution a general law was enacted relating to the removal of county seats, and Cass County finally, as before stated, secured the removal of its county seat to Virginia as a result of the last election, held in 1872. Virginia did not become the metropolis that it was expected by the more sanguine it would be, and Beardstown did not sink beneath the sand dunes on the river bank. The county seat has become a beautiful little city with excellent business houses and paved streets, while Beardstown has grown at a rapid rate, now having over 7,000 inhabitants with flourishing industries, banks, churches, schools, water works, electric lights and paved streets that make it a city worthy of the efforts of the citizens who have made it what it is. Both places can well afford to forget all about the early exasperating contests over that which has proven not to have been of great value to either.

A POLITICAL SIDELIGHT.

Cass County, politically, has been Democratic most of the years since the Civil war, now and then electing a Republican to some local office, and has had, for the greater part of the time since 1870, a representative in the General Assembly, either in the senate or in the house. In 1885, the county was represented in the lower house by Hon. J. Henry Shaw, as a member of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly, the county then being in the Thirty-fourth Senatorial District. That legislature witnessed the most dramatic political contest in the history of the state. The senate was composed of twenty-six Republicans, twenty-four Democrats, and one Greenback-Democrat. The house had seventy-six Republicans, seventy-six Democrats, and Elijah Haines, an independent, who had been elected speaker after a somewhat prolonged contest. A successor to Senator John A. Logan was to be elected, and he had been made the caucus nominee of the Republican party without opposition; and the distinguished representative in Congress, William R. Morrison was the Democratic nominee. On the first joint ballot, which was taken February 18, 1885, Senator Logan received 101 votes; W. R. Morrison, ninety-four votes; Mr. Haines, four votes, and there were four scattering votes. Ballots were taken on two subsequent days without any material change and then, during the rest of February, March and April, either one side or the other refrained from voting, the purpose being to prevent a quorum. On February 26, Robert E. Logan, a Republican of the Nineteenth District died, and on March 20, Senator Frank M. Bridges, a Democrat of the Thirty-seventh District died. At the special election called to fill these vacancies, a Republican and Democrat, respectively, were elected, thus preserving the political parity. On April 13, Hon. J. Henry Shaw, of Beardstown, representative of the Thirty-fourth District, died very suddenly at his hotel at Springfield. Mr. Shaw was a Democrat, in a district that was a Democratic stronghold. At the time Mr. Shaw was elected to the assembly, Hon. Grover Cleveland carried the district for president by 2,060 majority. It was assumed that a Democrat would be elected to succeed Mr. Shaw. The special election was called for May 6. At that time the Australian ballot law was not in force, and nominations were made by the convention system. The Democrats held their district convention and nominated Arthur A. Leeper, a well known lawyer of Virginia, who had been state's attorney for Cass County. The Republicans held no convention and apparently were letting the election go by default. The Democratic convention was held at Virginia, and on the same evening a few Republican leaders casually met and it was whispered among them that it might be possible to organize a "still hunt" and elect a Republican and thus end the deadlock at Springfield. In a few days James B. Black, Capt. Reuben Lancaster, Dr. S. M. Colady and one or two others went to Springfield and a consultation was held in the old Leland Hotel, where assembled a few of the most intimate and trusted friends of Gen. Logan and a plan was developed and decision made that Capt. William H. Weaver should be put up as the candidate. He was well known, as he was born in Cass County and had lived there until after the Civil war, and had then lived for a time in Mason County, and was then living at Petersburg, Menard County. A few only of the most careful Republicans in each county of the dis-



Anna E Brauer

trict were let into the secret. It was arranged that Welles Cory, a newspaper man of Mason City should look after the printing of the tickets. He closed his office at the usual time in the evening after his weekly paper was sent out, and then, with curtains down he went to work at the tickets. To facilitate press work he set up several tickets in one form and then cut them into strips of six tickets on each for delivery, and the handlers of the tickets were to separate them. The plan was that information should not be given out until the morning of election, and then trusted lieutenants were to go into every voting district and distribute the tickets and quietly pass the word, the voters were not to go to the polls until about four o'clock in the afternoon. Election day came on with little attention being paid to it by the Democrats, who thought there was no contest. The Republicans went about their work as usual, but when four o'clock came they began to pour into the polls in full force. They came in such great numbers and with such enthusiasm that the Democrats realized at once that something was being done, and, discovering the true situation, made every effort to counteract the movement, but it was too late, their forces could not be rallied, and the result was that Captain Weaver was elected, and on May 19, 1885, Gen. Logan was, with the vote of Captain Weaver, re-elected to the United States senate. An amusing incident is related relative to one Republican, who came in from the field where he had been plowing, and getting hold of one of the slips containing the six tickets, in his excitement and hurry, instead of tearing one off, he voted the entire six, thus destroying his vote. The plan being successfully carried out, many persons arose at once to claim credit for it as is usual in such cases. However, the plan was not a new one. In the special election held in Sangamon County in 1855, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Abraham Lincoln from the legislature, the Democratic leaders successfully invoked the same tactics and elected a successor to Lincoln when nearly everyone in the county assumed his successor would be a Whig. The real credit belongs to the Republicans of the district who had the good judgment to keep the secret; had they not done that, the plan would have failed utterly, and as it was, the majority of Weaver was only 336 votes. As a matter of fact the whole plan was conceived and laid before Senator Logan by the gentlemen mentioned above as having visited the senator at Springfield, and was adopted without much delay. It appeared to be the only chance and they took it. Mr. Leeper was criticised by a number of the Democrats, even some of the papers which should have known better, cast the blame upon him, but he was in no sense at fault. The district was so overwhelmingly Democratic that had he undertaken an active campaign it would have only subjected him to ridicule, and it is not at all likely any greater vote would have been polled. The sensible members of the party did not charge that up to Mr. Leeper, but vindicated him in a substantial manner from the aspersions of others, by nominating him for state senator of his district in 1888, and retained him in the senate for three successive terms. Mr. Leeper was an excellent lawyer, and made a very creditable senator. For years, however, in this county, the "Weaver steal" as it was called was used as the bugaboo to scare Democrats to the polls. The "Heelers" however, cried "wolf" so often that it finally wore out and was only laughed at as a good "stunt" which any party would have pulled off had opportunity offered.

CAMPAIGNS OF 1888-1892.

Little excitement attended the political campaign locally until 1888, when Hon. Grover Cleveland was renominated, and Gov. Benjamin Harrison, a grandson of "Old Tippecanoe," William Henry Harrison, was nominated by the Republicans. Harrison was no sooner before the people than the Democratic newspapers began a campaign of ridicule by charging the candidate with attempting to wear "Grandpa's hat." This was caught up at once by the Republicans, and it was made the emblem of the campaign. The old campaign of 1840 with log cabins in the procession was re-enacted. It was a lively and interesting campaign and conducted with great vigor, with the best of humor prevailing. Harrison was elected, but the Democrats carried Cass County as usual. In 1892 Harrison was renominated by the Republican convention which that year met at Minneapolis, Minn., and the Democratic party nominated Cleveland for the third time, with the result that he defeated Harrison, but the administration was unfortunate and a financial panic ensued in 1893, causing a great many business failures. Laborers were thrown out of employment and

it was all charged up to the administration as a consequence. The elections in the fall of 1894 were disastrous to the Democratic party. In Illinois there was bnt one Democratic congressman elected and that was Finis E. Downing, of Virginia, Cass Connty, which was then a part of the Sixteenth District, which had always been so largely Democratic that it was deemed useless to put up a candidate in opposition to the Democratic nominee, but in 1894 the general conditions that prevailed made the outlook for the Republicans unusually bright, and Gen. John I. Rinaker, of Carlinville, was placed on the Republican ticket. Downing's majority was so small on the face of the returns that a contest was instituted which resulted in Congress declaring that Rinaker was elected, and Cass County lost its first and only representative in Congress. In Cass Courty the normal majority of the Democratic party of 700 had been reduced to forty for Mr. Downing, while two Repnblicans, L. W. Pilger, candidate for sheriff, and J. G. Pearn, candidate for county snperintendent of schools, were elected.

FREE SILVER CAMPAIGN.

Two years later came the famous "free silver" campaign. The deplorable financial condition and the business failures of the country were, by financiers of the "Coin Harvey" type and school, attributed to the insufficiency of money. The Hon. William J. Bryan, who had formerly lived at Jacksonville, in Morgan County, and began the practice of law in that city, had moved to Nebraska. While visiting at his old home at Jacksonville, in June, 1896, he made an appointment to speak in the opera house at Virginia, on some of the populistic ideas he had absorbed in late years. He spoke to very limited audiences. No one had then the slightest idea that Mr. Bryan would within a month be the candidate of the Democratic party for president, and it may be that he had not the remotest hope of such an honor himself. His able oratorical effort at the Chicago convention landed him the prize and one of the most noted political campaigns ensued. Everybody became a potential financier and with the aid of Col. Harvey's book was able to discuss the subject with great force. Street corner and soap box debates were the order of the day and night, and had the election occurred within two months of the nominations there is little doubt bnt that Mr. Bryan would have been elected, but, by the middle of September, the tide had changed and by November the people had pretty thoroughly made np their minds on the money qnestion. Hon. William McKinley, the Republican candidate, was elected by a large majority in the electoral college. Cass County elected the full Democratic local ticket and gave Mr. Bryan a handsome majority. There is nothing so uncertain as public sentiment and in the next presidential election, in 1900, the political pendulum had swung back to its normal beat, and Cass County gave Mr. Bryan, who was again the Democratic nominee, a majority of 780, the vote standing 2626 for Bryan, and 1846 for McKinley. In four years more the change in public sentiment was such that we had, in Cass County, when Mr. Parker was the Democratic candidate for president against Mr. Roosevelt, the astonishing result of only seventy-nine plurality for Parker, the vote standing: Parker 1906, Roosevelt 1827. It may be interesting to give also the vote of 1908, with Taft and Sherman 1828; Bryan and Kern 2434. In 1912 the vote stood: Wilson and Marshall, 2223; Taft and Sherman 719; Roosevelt and Johnson 1086.

CASS COUNTY IN CONGRESS.

Hon. Finis E. Downing, elected in 1894, took his seat in 1895, but upon the termination of the contest instituted, Mr. Downing retired, and Gen. Rinaker of Carlinville took the seat.

The following persons have represented Cass County in the General Assembly. In this list are included those who were living in the territory known as the "three-mile strip."

REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LEGISLATURE.

William Holmes, 1838-1840; Amos S. West, 1840-1842; John W. Pratt, 1842-1846; Francis A. Arenz, 1842-1844; Edward W. Turner, 1846-1848; Richard S. Thomas, 1848-1850; Cyrus Wright, 1854-1856; Samuel W. Christy, 1856-1858; Henry E. Dummer, 1860-1864; James M. Epler, 1862-1864; James M. Epler, 1866-1868; William W. Easley, 1870-1872; Dr. J. F. Snyder, 1878-1880; John W. Savage, 1878-1880; Linus C. Chandler, 1880-1882; J. Henry Shaw, 1880-1882; T. L. Mathews, 1882-1884; J. Henry Shaw, 1884, died before his term expired and was succeeded by Capt. W. H. Weaver of Menard County; Michael Halpin, 1886-1888; Arthnr A. Leeper, 1888-1900,

in the Senate; and J. Joseph Cooke, 1904-1906, in the lower house.

CHAPTER XIV.

MILITARY HISTORY.

RECORD OF WARS A PART OF HISTORY—CASS COUNTY IN THE BLACK HAWK WAR—MEXICAN WAR—THE CIVIL WAR—HISTORY AND ROSTER OF REGIMENTS IN WHICH CASS COUNTY WAS CONCERNED—NINETEENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—FOURTEENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—TENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—THIRTY-THIRD ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—A DISTINGUISHED OFFICER AND CITIZEN—THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' HOME AT QUINCY—ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY — EIGHTEENTH ILLINOIS (REORGANIZED) VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—THIRTY-SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—FORTY-SEVENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY — SIXTY-FIRST ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—SEVENTY-FIRST ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—EIGHTY-SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY—ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIFTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY —SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY—THIRD ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY—THIRD ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY (CONSOLIDATED)—SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

RECORD OF WARS A PART OF HISTORY.

It might be best for future world peace that the shouts of those who overcome in battle should not be echoed and re-echoed throughout the pages of history. Wars have, without doubt, been the approximate as well as remote cause of the changed environments and political conditions of every nation or people, and therefore in a historical review, wars cannot be ignored or passed over with a mere casual notice. But it is deplorable that such a degree of publicity and the glorification of the achievements of war are regarded so necessary a concomitant to civilization, that most of our school histories devote space to mobilization, marches, manoeuvres and battles of armies engaged in war, wholly out of proportion to the relative importance of historical events. To many it appears that the vivid portrayal of battle and of carnage, of destruction of life and property, and the spectacular appeal of war, make indelible impressions that are not calculated to encourage an effort later on in life, toward a peaceful solution of differences arising between people and nations. If there were less glorification of war, there would, perhaps, be less war. Better the willows of peace it would seem than the laurels of battle. However, there may come a time when the most peaceful citizen must resort to arms; when his liberties, his home and fireside are in danger; when his government is being undermined by treachery, or threatened by the uprising of a traitorous host, then indeed must the spirit of true patriotism assert itself, and men go forth to battle even unto death for the preservation of those cherished objects. It was thus that our peaceful-loving citizens became soldiers; that they went out to battle, and some sacrificed their lives that this nation might endure; and their names merit a place in the simple annals of our humble community, if only mention in the list of hero dead, or of aged and respected living.

CASS COUNTY IN THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

The first war in which citizens of the territory now comprising Cass County were engaged was the Black Hawk war. A short review of that war appears in a former chapter, but no list of soldiers was given, and it is now very difficult to obtain one of those who served in that war from the present Cass County, inasmuch as there was at that time no Cass County, and all records pertaining to soldiers from this territory were credited to Morgan County, and it cannot be definitely determined from what part of Morgan County the volunteers enlisted. A few names have been obtained from the best available sources, and are here appended. Although the valor and patriotism of any soldiers are not to be measured by county or state lines, it is pleasant to know of those to which we may lay definite claim.

Spy Battalion, Capt. Allen Lindsey's company: Martin Harding, George W. Beggs, John P. Dick, William Lindsey, Philip Hash, William Lucas, John Lucas, Thomas Plasters, Jacob Yaple.

Capt. A. Lincoln's company, Fourth regiment:

Nathan Drake of Beardstown; and Travice Elmore, then of Sangamon County, who soon after the war became a resident of Cass County.

James Whitlock, Odd Battalion, enlisted from Beardstown, had the following Beardstown men: George W. Foster, Alfred Hash, Obediah Rittenhouse, Samuel Scovele, James Taylor and John H. Wright.

There were several odd battalions, and one of them had John S. Wilbourn, who was the first probate justice, for the new county of Cass, for its captain. Nothing can be learned of the members of his company so far as their place of residence is concerned, nor is it certain that Captain Wilbourn was at that time a resident of the territory now comprised in Cass County, although he did live here when the county was organized.

MEXICAN WAR.

The Mexican war, growing out of the annexation of Texas, called for the first three regiments from Illinois, and subsequently a fourth regiment, organized by Col. E. D. Baker, then in Congress. The records do not give the residence of the volunteers, at least so far as any to which access can be had. Thus we are left to inquiry among friends and old acquaintances, and old settlers, for any information concerning those who enlisted from Cass County. No roster of soldiers from Cass can be found, but we have learned of the service of the following: Peter Conover, of Company B, First Regiment; Edward Heine, musician of Company D, First Regiment; Stephen Elam, of Company K, First Regiment; Daniel Duckwiler, company and regiment not known; and C. H. C. Havekluft, who was a member of an independent company.

CIVIL WAR.

When Fort Sumter was fired upon by those seeking to disrupt the Union, it aroused the patriotism of the people of Cass County, as it did in all parts of the state, and it was not long until companies began to organize and tender their services to the governor. Several companies were enlisted entirely from Cass County, and many individuals went at the first call of the president for troops, to enlist where the first opportunity presented. That Cass County citizens responded early to the call is attested by the fact that a census, taken by order of the county board to ascertain the number of voluntary enlistments, shows that by the first day of September, 1862, there had been 881 from the various precincts of the county. It is not intended in this work to give a history of the war of the Rebellion, but simply a short sketch only of the regiments containing companies formed in Cass County.

NINETEENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

The Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry was formed at the opening of the war, immediately after the first call of the president, but was not fully organized until about three months later. It was organized at Chicago and mustered into service June 17, 1861. All the companies were either from Chicago and Cook County, and the northern part of the state, except Company F, which was from Cass County. That company had its origin in 1858, when, because other towns and villages were organizing military companies, Virginia thought it would have one too, not with any particular notion that it would be needed for war, but just because it was suggested as a desirable training for the boys. Capt. L. S. Allard, who had been in the Mexican war, offered his services as drill master. The company was formed with Captain Allard, captain, and J. G. Campbell, lieutenant. Captain Allard drilled his company after the order of tactics used in the Mexican war, but it never had any arms. While the political compaign of 1858 became pretty warm, yet no one in Allard's company was much impressed, unless it was Captain Allard himself, of the seriousness of the threats of war made by the southern people, but when the war did come, he promptly tendered his company to the governor for service. Gov. Yates already had as many companies offered as he could use, to tender to the national government to fill the quota called for, so Captain Allard was told to hold his company in readiness; but the boys were anxious to get into the fray, much more so than they were a year later, and a number of the company drifted away to find an opening in some other company where they could go immediately into service. Knowlton H. Chandler of Chandlerville had also organized a company at that village, but it was not accepted and he experienced the same difficulty in holding his men. When the call came later for Allard's and Chandler's



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
BEARDSTOWN



CITY HALL, BEARDSTOWN
Formerly Cass County Court House
Built 1844-5

CITY LIBRARY BUILDING, BEARDSTOWN
Built in 1904



PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING, CHANDLERVILLE
Built in 1905-6



RESIDENCE DISTRICT, BEARDSTOWN



HIGH SCHOOL, ARENZVILLE
Built in 1910, Replacing the one Destroyed by Fire

companies, they found they had only enough left to make one company from both organizations. These were united and the company organized by the election of Allard, captain; K. H. Chandler, first lieutenant, and Thomas Job, a son of the early pioneer Archibald Job, second lieutenant. The ladies of Chandlerville presented the company with a fine silk flag, which it carried through the entire four years of war, and it was brought home by Captain James G. Campbell. The company went to Springfield, and from there was sent on to Chicago, where it was mustered in, as a part of the Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

The regiment left Chicago July 5, 1861, by rail to Palmyra, Mo., and while Company F was doing garrison duty at Hannibal, north of Palmyra, Second Lieutenant Job was killed, and James G. Campbell was promoted to the position. On September 15, 1861, the regiment was ordered to Washington to join the Army of the Potomac, but on its way, when about eighty miles from Cincinnati, on the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, a bridge gave way, and six coaches filled with soldiers were thrown into the river. About thirty were killed and 100 seriously injured. This accident changed the destinies of the regiment, and it was ordered to join General Sherman in Kentucky, which it did, and was in the engagement at Huntsville; campaigned in Alabama, and was in Nashville when that place was cut off from communication with the North. It moved south with Rosecrans' army, and on December 31, 1862, and January 1 and 2, 1863, engaged in battle at Stone River, and there made the famous charge, saving the Union left, and gained the greatest glory, but it paid dearly for it. Colonel Scott received a death wound, and Captain Chandler, who had led Company F across the river, was shot through the head just as he reached the further shore. It was night when the battle closed on the second, and early next morning Lieutenant Campbell, who had been in command of Company I, went with some comrades to search for the body of Captain Chandler. They found it near where some of the company had seen him fall, and digging a grave at the roots of a tree, they wrapped his greatcoat about him and covered him with earth, and marked the tree for identification. The body of Captain Chandler was later recovered and brought home and is buried in the Chandlerville cemetery. Captain Knowlton H. Chandler was the oldest son of Marcus Chandler, a brother of Dr. Charles Chandler, founder of Chandlerville. Marcus Chandler came to Cass County in 1833, and entered land east of his brother Charles, and took an active interest in the affairs of the county. He served several terms as county commissioner. On the official report of the death of Captain Chandler, a commission as captain was issued to Lieut. James G. Campbell, who became captain of Company F, and held the rank until the close of the war, and was with his company through all its marches and battles. The regiment was at the battles of Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca and Dallas, when, its time of service having expired, it was sent to Chicago, where it was mustered out July 9, 1864. The following is a list of the men and officers:

Captain Luther S. Allard (Co. F), Virginia, resigned; Captain Knowlton H. Chandler, Chandlerville, killed in battle; Captain James G. Campbell, Virginia, mustered out July 9, 1864. First Lieutenant Samuel L. Hamilton, Chandlerville, mustered out July 9, 1864. Second Lieutenant Thomas L. Job, Virginia, accidentally killed; Second Lieutenant John Hill, Virginia, resigned; Second Lieutenant Silas W. Kent, Virginia, resigned. Sergeant Daniel March, Chandlerville, mustered out; Sergeant Thomas Chaffer, Virginia, mustered out. Corporal Stephen W. Porter, Virginia, sergeant, transferred to Invalid Corps; Corporal Archibald W. Job, Virginia, mustered out; Corporal Horace E. Ward, Virginia, mustered out; Corporal Addison G. Plummer, Virginia, re-enlisted as veteran. Moses Wanchel (wagoner), Virginia, discharged as private, disability.

Privates: Henry K. Anderson, Virginia, mustered out; William Beck, Chandlerville, mustered out as sergeant; William E. Brown, Virginia, discharged, disability; Sidney B. Brown, Virginia, discharged, disability; John Barrows, Virginia, discharged, disability; Albert G. Beebe, Virginia, corporal, discharged, disability; Jacob Baker, Virginia; James H. Border, Virginia, corporal, discharged, disability; Dennis Conley, Virginia, mustered out; Frederick Cording, Virginia, discharged, disability; Edward Clark, Virginia; Thomas A. Hamilton, Virginia, re-enlisted as veteran; James Hodkinson, Virginia, died in Ohio; Silas W. Kent, Virginia, promoted sergeant and second lieutenant; John Keys, Chandlerville, mustered out; Thomas J. Lacy, Chandlerville, mustered out as corporal; Albert Leistercew, Virginia, mustered out; Horace

Learned, Virginia, mustered out: John Lindsey, Virginia, corporal, wonnded and missing at Chickamauga; William Owen, Virginia, discharged, disability; Michael Reynolds, Virginia, discharged, disability; Ormand D. Reed, Virginia, discharged, disability; John Russell, Virginia, mnstered out; William Remis, Virginia, mustered out; Daniel Smith, Virginia, discharged, disability; Walker Ward, Virginia, discharged to enlist in Fonrth Cavalry.

Recrnits: Henry S. Atwood, Virginia, transferred to headquarters, Fourteenth Artillery Corps; Felix G. Cox, Virginia, discharged, disability; Abraham Hess, Chandlerville, re-enlisted as veteran; John McMullen, Virginia, transferred to headqnarters, Fonrteenth Artillery Corps; Richard L. Porter, Virginia, discharged, disability; Andrew Snllivan, Virginia, transferred to headquarters, Fourteenth Artillery Corps.

FOURTEENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

The Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry was one of six regiments organized under the first call for troops. It was mustered into the state service on May 4, 1861, at Camp Duncan, Jacksonville, Ill. The regiment lay in Jacksonville until May 25, when it was mustered into the United States service by Captain Pitcher of the United States Army. The first colonel of the regiment was John M. Palmer, who, after the war, became governor of the state and later United States senator. The quartermaster was John F. Nolte, of Beardstown. On June 19, 1861, the regiment left for Quincy, Ill., where it remained until Jnly 5, when it commenced a campaign through Missouri which lasted until February, 1862, when the regiment arrived at St. Louis. Soon thereafter it left for Fort Donelson, where it arrived the day following the snrrender, and was immediately sent to Pittsburg Landing and participated in the battle of Shiloh. From that time it campaigned through Tennessee and Mississippi until October 5, when it was engaged in the battle of Metamora. It was at the siege of Vicksburg until the surrender of that stronghold, on July 4, 1863, and also at the siege of Jackson, and helped to occupy Vicksburg. At Harrisburg, La., Natchez, Wilson's Creek and Huntsville, where it had a skirmish with the enemy, the regiment was in evidence. At Meridian it was consolidated with the Fifteenth regiment, both having been re-enlisted as veterans, on July 1, 1864. In October of that year a large portion of the battalion was captnred by Hood, and sent to Andersonville Prison, Ga., a most terrible place, used for military incarceration. The remainder of the battalion went with General Sherman on his "march to the sea." In the spring of 1865 the battalion was discontinued and each regiment filled by recrnits, and resumed its regimental formation. It was mnstered ont at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and arrived at Springfield, Ill., September 29, 1865, where it received final payment and was discharged. Dnring its four years and fonr months of service, the regiment marched 4,490 miles, traveled by rail 12,490 miles, and by river 4,690 miles, a total of 11,670 miles. The aggregate nnmber of men in the regiment dnring service was 1,980, and it was mnstered ont with 480 men. A fnll roster so far as Cass County soldiers are concerned is given herewith:

Quartermaster John F. Nolte, Beardstown, promoted from lientenant. Captain Charles Opitz (Co. A), Beardstown, promoted from second lieutenant. First Lieutenant Henry Rodecker, Beardstown, resigned; First Lientenant Louis P. Bourquinn, Virginia, resigned; First Lieutenant Augustine A. Snow, Beardstown, mustered out, consolidation. Second Lientenant David S. Finney, Beardstown. Company A, Veteran Battalion. Sergeant John M. Johnson, transferred to Madison Battery; Sergeant John S. Morgan, discharged; Sergeant Charles Nickle, promoted from private: Sergeant E. H. Richardson, mustered out; Sergeant David A. Tull, transferred to Company C, Third Cavalry; Sergeant Augustus Hoyer, discharged for promotion: Sergeant David Carr, mnstered out. Corporal Charles A. Eames, discharged for promotion; Corporal Edward E. Foster, discharged for promotion; Corporal Charles H. Harris, transferred to First Illinois Cavalry; Corporal William H. Dutch; Corporal William DeHaven, transferred to Company C, Third Cavalry. William Sales (wagoner), discharged.

Privates: Robert Armstrong, Beardstown, mustered out; Lester Beale, Beardstown, mustered ont; Elijah Bond, Chandlerville, died; William Brennan, Chandlerville, mustered ont; Amos Burkhardt, Beardstown, mustered out: Alonzo Buck, Beardstown, mustered out; Joseph Burnett, Virginia, mustered out; George Cummings, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Augnst Christianer, Beardstown, mustered out:

Henry Dueker, Chandlerville; Charles Dueker, Chandlerville, transferred to Invalid Corps; Joseph Ewing, Beardstown, mustered out as corporal; David S. Finney, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Joseph Heine, Beardstown, mustered out; John Hess, Beardstown, mustered out; Joseph Huber, Beardstown, discharged; Caleb R. Jones, Beardstown, mustered out; Dennis Kolihar, Chandlerville, killed; Solomon King, Chandlerville, mustered out; Edward Knight, Beardstown, died; Albert Krausse, Chandlerville, —; Christian A. Kuhl, Beardstown, mustered out; Peter W. Light, Virginia, re-enlisted as veteran; Charles Lincoln, Beardstown, transferred to Invalid Corps; Abner S. Livermore, Beardstown, mustered out; Dexter Loomis, Beardstown, killed at Shiloh; Charles Lucking, Beardstown, mustered out; Archibald W. McConnell, Beardstown, mustered out; John Medaris, Virginia, discharged; John S. Morgan, Beardstown, discharged as sergeant; William C. Morrow, Beardstown, mustered out; Carrol Mulane, Beardstown, killed by provost guard at Memphis; William Nelson, Beardstown, mustered out; Charles Nickel, Beardstown, mustered out as first sergeant; Andrew J. Norton, Beardstown, discharged; John H. Plank, Arenzville, mustered out; Lester J. Parmenter, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; William H. Parson, Beardstown, discharged; Henry C. Phelps, Beardstown, mustered out; Reuben C. Pool, Beardstown, mustered out; George M. Rhineberger, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; William Roach, Beardstown, discharged; Abraham J. Sayler, Beardstown, discharged; Calvin W. Scott, Beardstown, mustered out; Christian Schramm, Beardstown, mustered out; Francis M. Schaeffer, Monroe, discharged; George H. Tracey, Beardstown, mustered out as corporal; Thomas Webster, Arenzville, mustered out as sergeant; Edward Weinschenk, Chandlerville, transferred to veteran battery; William Wisbey, Beardstown, mustered out; Charles Williams, Beardstown, killed at Shiloh; Andrew McFarland (Veteran), Chandlerville, Company A Vet. Battery.

Recruits: Francis P. Ashlock, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Pinckard Burnett, Virginia, Company A Vet. Battery; Charles Burns, Beardstown, discharged; Henry C. Brown, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; William Cole, Hickory, Company A Vet. Battery; Henry Clemons, Hickory, discharged; James M. Ewing, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Martin Finney, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Robert McFarland, Chandlerville, Company A Vet. Battery; James S. McLin, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; George H. Permenter, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; John W. Richardson, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Henry Roach, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Alonzo Snow, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; John F. Switzer, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; David P. Treadway, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Lewis Weaver, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Benjamin Wood, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery.

Recruits assigned to Company B: Charles Clemmens, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Henry S. Cowan, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; William L. Wells, Beardstown, discharged.

To Company E: John H. Clark, Ashland, Company A Vet. Battery.

To Company G: Musician, John C. Shofter, Beardstown, mustered out.

Recruits: Conrad Meiries, Beardstown, discharged; William Stauf, Beardstown, transferred to Invalid Corps.

To Company I: Robert Fletcher, Beardstown, Company F Vet. Battery.

Unassigned Recruits: George T. Glover, Beardstown, died; Guilford Judd, Beardstown, discharged; William H. Lightfoot, Beardstown, Company A Vet. Battery; Robert H. Phelpor, Beardstown, discharged; James B. Squires, —.

TENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Thomas G. Pratt, of Virginia.

THIRTY-THIRD ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

The Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry was another regiment that had a company made up mostly of Cass County men. The regiment was organized at Camp Butler, but was known as the "Normal" regiment, because so many students from the Normal State University were in the regiment and its first colonel, Charles E. Hovey, was principal of that school. Dr. Charles E. Lippincott of Chandlerville, immediately upon hearing the news of the disastrous defeat at Bull Run, gathered as many men as he could in Cass County and proceeded to Springfield, where he offered to Governor Yates his company to be placed in any regiment where they could be used.

The company was recruited to full strength and attached to the Thirty-third regiment, as Company K. Dr. Lippincott was elected its captain, William A. Nixon, first lieutenant, and William H. Weaver, second lieutenant. Mr. Weaver later served in the Seventy-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the one hundred-day service. The regiment was mustered into service August 15, 1861, 1,006 strong, and left camp for Ironton, Mo., September 20, 1861, receiving its arms from the St. Louis arsenal. It remained during the winter at Ironton, from which point it made frequent scouting expeditions, in one of which it fought the battle of Fredericktown. The next spring it went south, marched overland from Pilot Knob to Batesville, then with General Curtis marched back to Jacksonport, and thence to Helena, Ark. During the marches it fought the battle of the Cache, and was in many skirmishes. During the winter and spring of 1863 it campaigned through southeast Missouri, was sent to Milliken's Bend, participated in the engagements at Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, siege of Vicksburg and siege of Jackson. In August of that year it went to New Orleans, and engaged in the Bayou Teche campaign. From thence it went to Arkansas Pass, St. Joseph, Matagorda Island and Saluria, participating in the capture of Fort Esperanza, and from there to Indianola and Port Lavaca, Tex. On January 1, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted as a veteran regiment, and on March 1, received veteran furloughs, at Bloomington, Ill. It again collected after the expiration of the furloughs, at Springfield, and left that place April 18, 1864, for St. Louis, and from there went to New Orleans, where it campaigned along the railroad from New Orleans to Brashear. There it remained until the spring of 1865. When the Mobile expedition was organized, the Thirty-third was added to the Sixteenth Army Corps. On March 2, 1865, as it was proceeding to New Orleans, upon nearing Butte Station, the train was thrown from the track and nine men were killed, and about seventy were injured, two of whom afterwards died of their injuries. Fortunately for the Cass County boys, Company K had been detailed to guard transportation, and so they were not in the wreck. On March 18, the regiment embarked for Fish River, Ala., and with General Canby's army marched up the east side of Mobile Bay. It participated actively in the siege of Spanish Fort, from March 27 to April 8, when the fort surrendered. It then proceeded to Montgomery, where it received the news of General Lee's surrender. It marched to Vicksburg, which place it reached August 17, and there remained until it was mustered out, November 24, 1865, and on the 29th of that month, it arrived at Springfield, Ill., where the men were paid off. Lieut. William H. Weaver resigned March 22, 1862, and in July of that year organized a company at Beardstown and from other parts of Cass County, for the three months' service. He was elected captain, and Thomas Byron Collins, second lieutenant. The company went to Chicago, where it became a part of the Seventy-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as Company G. When this company was mustered out at Chicago, October 29, 1862, Captain Weaver became, in a sense a private citizen, but in 1864 he again furnished a company for the one hundred-day service. He was elected captain of that company, and Ebenezer Fish, second lieutenant. This company was attached to the One Hundred and Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as Company G.

A DISTINGUISHED OFFICER AND CITIZEN.

There were no other commissioned officers of the Thirty-third from Cass County except Capt. Charles E. Lippincott of Company K. On March 1, 1862, the regiment had orders to leave winter quarters at Ironton, Mo., for the south, and on that day Lieutenant-Colonel Lockwood resigned, and an election was held by order of Colonel Hovey to fill the vacancy. There were several candidates, among them being the name of Captain Lippincott. The vote did not show Captain Lippincott's election by several hundred votes, but he was absent on leave at Springfield, where a commission could be issued without the formalities and annoyances of election returns. Governor Yates knew Captain Lippincott very well, they having been schoolmates during boyhood, and so the governor appointed Captain Lippincott lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. On September 5 Colonel Hovey was promoted to be brigadier-general, and Lieut.-Col. Lippincott was commissioned colonel. On February 17, 1865, he was promoted brevet brigadier-general, and after the fall of Mobile was made brigadier-general of veterans.

Charles Ellet Lippincott was born at Edwardsville, Madison County, Ill., January 26, 1825. His father was Rev. Thomas Lippincott, and his mother's maiden name was Catherine Wyly Leggett. She was a sister of William Leggett,



Walter E. Buck.

the distinguished editor of the New York Evening Post. On October 11, 1821, Thomas Lippincott and Catherine W. Leggett were married, she being his third wife. Thomas Lippincott being a preacher, he was transferred from place to place to fill various charges, and his son Charles E., received only such schooling as he could in the village schools, and early realized that he must rely upon his own efforts, as his father had a large family, and was receiving but a small remuneration for his services. Charles E. Lippincott received his first start from teaching school for two terms on Rock Creek, in Menard County, at a very small salary, and in 1844 he entered Illinois College at Jacksonville, where, by applying the most rigid economy, he got through the first year of college. His funds being exhausted, he, during the next summer, worked on a farm. Having decided to adopt the medical profession as a calling in life, he soon commenced the study of the healing art with a country physician, and in 1847-8 again attended Illinois College, and had for his instructor, or at least one of them, the well known physician and surgeon, Dr. David Prince. He, however, did not graduate from either department of Illinois College. In 1848 he went to St. Louis and obtained employment with the firm of which his brother-in-law, W. S. Gilman, was a partner, and while at St. Louis, attended Pope's Medical College, taking a full course of lectures and received the degree of M. D., and a diploma. Dr. Lippincott located at Chandlerville, and began the practice of his profession, one of his first patients being Dr. Charles Chandler, who had become ill from his perpetual drudgery over the sand hills and the miasmatic bottoms of the Sangamon. Also, at the request of Dr. Chandler, he looked after the old doctor's practice, thus gaining an excellent start and a wide acquaintance. On Christmas day, December 25, 1851, Dr. Lippincott was married to Emily Webster Chandler, a daughter of Dr. Chandler. In the summer of 1853, Dr. Lippincott crossed the plains to California in search of gold, but soon after arriving there engaged in politics and was sent to the state senate. He remained in California five years and then returned to Chandlerville, where he again resumed his practice, and continued therein until the breaking out of the Civil war.

At the close of the war, General Lippincott did not return to the practice of medicine, but gave his attention largely to politics. Before the war he was a Democrat, but after the war, he associated himself with the Republicans. Without the place being sought by him, he was nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Ninth District, composed of Pike, Brown, Schuyler, Fulton, McDonough, Cass, Mason and Menard counties. The district had been overwhelmingly Democratic in former years, but General Lippincott was only defeated by a few hundred in a vote of more than 30,000. When the Twenty-fifth General Assembly met in 1867, it elected General Lippincott secretary of the senate, his father having held the same position in 1821. He resigned to accept the position of door-keeper of the national house of Congress. In 1868 he was nominated by the state Republican convention for state auditor, and elected on the same ticket with General Grant for president. He was re-elected to the same office in 1872. At the close of that term having served the state for eight years as a very efficient and popular official, he retired to his farm adjoining Chandlerville.

The legislature of 1885 passed the act for the building and establishment of a soldiers' and sailors' home and Quincy was selected as the place of its location. Land to the extent of 140 acres was purchased, and the buildings were erected, subsequently eighty acres being added. It is at the northern limits of the city of Quincy on the Mississippi River, and is beautifully situated. Its splendid buildings, gardens, walks and drives combined with its natural advantages, give to the old, crippled, and indigent soldiers and sailors an earthly paradise. The Soldiers' and Sailors' Home was completed and thrown open for occupancy on March 3, 1887, the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of Cass County. The first trustees appointed by Governor Oglesby tendered the position of governor of the home to General Lippincott, which honor he accepted. It was conceded on all sides that the trustees had made a wise selection, and this was proven by General Lippincott's subsequent career. He entered upon his duties with enthusiasm, fully appreciating the importance and dignity of the position, but was shortly afterward stricken with paralysis, and died at the home September 11, 1887, aged sixty-two years seven months and sixteen days. His remains were taken to Springfield and buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery. The funeral obsequies were conducted by Stephenson Post, G. A. R., of Springfield, the active pall bearers being members of

his old regiment: Col. E. R. Roe, William Sutton, Col. E. R. Higgins, Joseph Turner, of Ashland, Charles I. Haskell, of Virginia, Captains J. M. Burnham and E. J. Lewis, and Joseph W. Fifer, of Bloomington, who later became governor of Illinois. The honorary pall bearers were Governor Oglesby, General Palmer, General McClernand, General McConnell, General John Cook, Colonel Wickersham, Senator Shelby M. Cullom and Hon. O. M. Hatch. The Congregational church, in which the services were held, was crowded, and after the short ceremonies, a large concourse of people with the old soldiers, followed his remains to their last resting place, of a warrior bold, brave and generous. His widow took up the burden of life alone, assuming her duties as matron of the home and there remained until her death, which occurred May 21, 1895. Her family of three children died some years prior to General Lippincott. She was buried by the side of her husband in Oak Ridge Cemetery. As a testimonial of the great respect and affection for General Lippincott and his wife, the old soldiers of the home from their individual contributions, caused to be erected upon the grounds a handsome building known as the Lippincott Memorial Hall. It is used as an assembly hall for religious services, lectures and other entertainments.

Following is the roster of the Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry as far as relates to Cass County soldiers:

Colonel Charles E. Lippincott, Chandlerville, mustered out September 10, 1865; Quartermaster, Richard B. Fulks, Beardstown, mustered out November 24, 1865; Brice Suffield, hospital steward, Chandlerville, veteran, mustered out.

Recruits assigned to Company I: William F. Conner, Beardstown, veteran, mustered out; Harrison H. Hickey, Chandlerville, died at Ironton; James H. Mayo, Beardstown, mustered out; Enos W. Wood, Chandlerville, re-enlisted as veteran.

Captain Charles E. Lippincott (Co. K), Chandlerville, promoted; Second Lieutenant William H. Weaver, Beardstown, resigned March 22, 1862; Sergeant Henry P. Grund, Beardstown, mustered out as first sergeant; Corporals John Nelson Kendall, Virginia, re-enlisted as veteran; Joseph D. Turner, Lancaster, mustered out as private; Musician Daniel Robinson, Virginia, promoted drum major.

Privates: James Alderson, Cass County, re-enlisted as veteran; Michael J. Barnett, Cass County, re-enlisted as veteran; James Boiconrt, Berrytown, re-enlisted as veteran; Edward Boicourt, Berrytown, re-enlisted as veteran; David Blair, Chandlerville, discharged, disability; Herman Bohne, Beardstown, wounded at Port Gibson; George Goemer, Beardstown, discharged, disability; John H. Betz, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Allen Cunningham, Virginia, discharged, disability; David Crews, Berrytown, re-enlisted as veteran; James H. Clifford, Virginia, mustered out; Thomas Crawford, Cass County, discharged, wounds; John Dwyer, Cass County, transferred to Company I; Moses Dowler, Beardstown, discharged, disability; George M. Forsyth, Chandlerville, re-enlisted as veteran; George French, Beardstown, mustered out; George W. Foxworthy, Hagley, re-enlisted as veteran; Frederick Goodell, Chandlerville, mustered out as corporal; John F. Hart, Cass County, died at Old Town, Ark.; Charles W. Hincher, Hagley, mustered out; Warren S. Huffaker, Hagley, re-enlisted as veteran; Conrad Hendricker, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; William H. Hickey, Chandlerville, transferred to Company I; George C. Kuhl, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; George S. Kuhl, Beardstown, mustered out; Edgar Lyon, Chandlerville, transferred to band; John Lawler, Beardstown, wounded, transferred to Invalid Corps; Reason F. Lasley, Cass County, discharged, disability; David W. Matterson, Cass County, re-enlisted as veteran; Leonard Mentree, Hagel, re-enlisted as veteran; John P. Matthew, Cass County, discharged, disability; Henry C. Millner, Chandlerville, discharged, disability; James Monroe, Chandlerville, discharged, disability; Thomas Mullen, Chandlerville, mustered out; William Murray, Virginia, mustered out as sergeant; James L. Needham, Virginia, corporal, died at Indianola, Texas; Charles Osten, Beardstown, discharged, disability; William Patterson, Beardstown, discharged, disability; John W. Phelps, Chandlerville, wounded; William Russell, Virginia, mustered out; Wesley Riggs, Virginia, mustered out; James Raybourne, Virginia, mustered out; Louis Renz, Beardstown, mustered out; James M. Sutton, Ashland, mustered out; Brier Suffied, Chandlerville, promoted hospital steward; Joseph Sissick, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Joseph Williamson, Virginia, mustered out; James Wilson, Virginia, mustered out.

Veterans: James M. Hinchie, Virginia, mustered out as corporal; Joseph M. Millstead, Virginia, mustered out as corporal; Daniel Z. Rob-

inson, Virginia, promoted drum major; Orville L. Stowell, Ashland, mustered out as musician.

Recruits: James Altick, Chandlerville; Israel Carman, Chandlerville, re-enlisted as veteran; Edwin Carman, Beardstown; John H. Carr, Lancaster, mustered out; William P. Conyers, Lancaster, mustered out; Colby Creed, Chandlerville, mustered out; David J. Curry, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas S. Chandler, Chandlerville, transferred to Company C; Archibald Campbell, Virginia, drowned in the Mississippi River on his way to report; Samuel A. Gould, Virginia, mustered out; Charles I. Haskell, Virginia, mustered out; Joseph S. Hawkenberry, Beardstown, mustered out; John M. Hawkenberry, Beardstown, mustered out; Henry Hinchcliff, Chandlerville, died at Vicksburg; Samuel E. Lyon, Beardstown, mustered out; James M. Maddox, Lancaster, mustered out; Andrew J. Morgan, Chandlerville, mustered out; George W. Newman, Chandlerville, died at New Orleans; John D. Orr, Beardstown, missing; Rudolph Oliver, Virginia, drowned; Elijah S. Plummer, Virginia, mustered out; Abraham Shoemaker, Beardstown, mustered out; Llewelyn Snell, Chandlerville, mustered out; Adolph Snell, Beardstown, mustered out; John A. Towles, Chandlerville, mustered out; William H. Workman, Chandlerville, mustered out; John C. Wilson, Chandlerville, died at Basher City.

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

The One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry was organized in July and August, 1862, and mustered into the service September 18 of that year at Springfield, Ill., being recruited from Cass, Menard and Sangamon counties. There were two companies from Cass County, one formed at Beardstown, and one at Virginia. Company D was formed at Virginia, and was organized with the following commissioned officers: Capt. Benjamin C. Berry, First Lieut. Thomas S. Berry, Second Lieut. David N. Downing. Company A, formed at Beardstown, had the following commissioned officers: Capt. John M. Johnson, First Lieut. Philander Lucas, Second Lieut. Joseph A. McClure, First Sergt. Norman S. Hitchcock. The regiment left Camp Butler for Memphis, Tenn., on November 8, 1862, arriving there on the 26th, and started at once on the Tallahatchie campaign. In the early part of 1863, it returned to Memphis, and was ordered to Louisiana, and on May 2 returned and engaged in the battle of Jackson, arriving at Vicksburg on June 18, and participating in the siege, with a loss of twenty killed and wounded. It was principally engaged in scout duty from that on until 1864, when it participated in the battle of Guntown, Miss. On the retreat from Guntown, the regiment was placed in the rear as guard, and held the enemy in check during the whole of the first night. There were 397 of the regiment engaged, and out of that number there were lost 209 in killed, wounded and missing. Lieut. Henry D. Freeman, of Company D, was captured and placed with other prisoners on a train and started south, but he jumped from the train while it was running at high speed and made his escape. After wandering through the woods and swamps for a week he finally reached a Union camp and was sent to his regiment. He served with his regiment during the remainder of the war. Among the wounded was Lieut. T. S. Berry, also of Company D. In August, 1864, the regiment was ordered to Duvall's Bluff, Ark., and leaving Brownsville in pursuit of General Price, it marched to Cape Girardeau in seventeen days on ten days' rations. It later traveled by foot and rail to Kansas City, Mo., then to St. Louis, and from there was sent to Nashville, where it engaged in battle on the 15th and 16th of December. After the surrender of Mobile, it was marched to Montgomery, arriving there April 24, 1865. There it bridged the Alabama River with pontoons and remained on guard until July 17, when it was ordered to Vicksburg, and was mustered out of service, August 3, 1865. However, it did not disband, but went to Camp Butler, where it was paid off on August 15 and discharged. The roster of the regiment relating to Cass County soldiers is as follows:

Major Joseph M. McLane, Cass County, died at Beardstown, February 16, 1865; Major John M. Johnson, Beardstown, mustered out August 3, 1865; Quartermaster Harrison T. Chandler, Chandlerville, mustered out as quartermaster-sergeant; Sergeant-Major Ezra Fish, Beardstown, promoted first lieutenant Company K; Robert A. Beadles (musician), Virginia, died at Memphis; John A. Kleinsteiber (musician), Cass County, mustered out, was a prisoner; Captain John M. Johnson (Co. A), Beardstown, promoted major; Captain Thomas N. Canfield, Cass County, mustered out August 3, 1865; First Lieutenant Philander Lucas, Beardstown, resigned; Second

Lieutenant Joseph A. McClure, Beardstown, killed; First Sergeant Norman S. Hitchcock, Beardstown, promoted first lieutenant Company K, Seventy-first United States Colored Infantry; Sergeant Fred Haid, Beardstown, mustered out; Sergeant Victor J. Phillipi, Cass County, mustered out; Corporal Jesse E. Dunaway, Cass County, died at Jackson, Tenn.; Corporal Jacob S. Stucky, Cass County, died at Memphis, Tenn.; Corporal Joseph L. Wright, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Corporal John Marshall, Beardstown, discharged as private; Corporal John W. Brown, Cass County, mustered out as sergeant, was a prisoner; Corporal William H. Hageman, Cass County, mustered out as private; Corporal Joseph Riffer, Cass County, mustered out; Corporal Christian Pilger, Beardstown, mustered out.

Privates: Richard B. Adams, Cass County, died at Memphis, Tenn.; A. D. Adkins, Cass County, mustered out; John Anderson, Cass County, deserted; William Buck, Cass County, mustered out; Lewis Boemler, Beardstown, mustered out; M. L. Brown, Cass County, mustered out; James C. Blanford, Cass County, mustered out; Pierre Buck, Cass County, mustered out; Robert Branian, Cass County, mustered out; Thomas Canfield, Cass County, promoted to captain; John M. Caffenberger, Beardstown, mustered out; Samuel P. Coy, Cass County, discharged; Collen Cordell, Cass County, died at Memphis; William F. Crow, Cass County, missing; Francis M. Davis, Beardstown, mustered out; John Davis, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Asa Dean, Beardstown, mustered out; Rufus M. Deeds, Cass County, mustered out; Peter Douglas, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Ezra Fish, Beardstown, promoted sergeant-major; Henry C. Gestring, Cass County, prisoner, Guntown, Miss., died; John H. Goodell, Chandlerville, mustered out; Simon Hansmeier, Cass County, mustered out, prisoner; August Hansmeier, Cass County, mustered out, prisoner; Albert H. Hart, Cass County, mustered out; William Hall, Cass County, mustered out; Joseph Haywood, Cass County, killed in action; John Heinen, Cass County, mustered out; Thomas Hickey, Cass County, killed at Guntown, Miss.; George Hoffman, Cass County, mustered out; Charles T. Kruse, Cass County, mustered out; R. F. Knippenberg, Beardstown, mustered out; Edward Kenchler, Cass County, discharged, wounds; John T. Kleinstauber, Cass County, promoted fife major; George Knighton, Cass County, mustered out; Charles E. Lawson, Beardstown, mustered out as corporal; Andrew Listman, Cass County, mustered out, prisoner war; George Linn, Cass County, mustered out, prisoner; Riley W. McLane, Beardstown, corporal, killed at Tupelo, Miss.; Robert McCarty, Beardstown, died at Memphis, Tenn.; Luther J. Main, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas Miller, Beardstown, transferred to Invalid Corps; Thomas Moore, Cass County, mustered out as corporal; Charles D. Marcey, Cass County, mustered out; Louis Meyer, Cass County, deserted; Louis Meyer, Cass County, mustered out; Edward Meyer, Cass County, mustered out, prisoner of war; August Pank, Cass County, discharged, disability; Asa N. Paschal, Cass County, died at Andersonville Prison; Lemon Plasters, Cass County, discharged, disability; Frederick William Pass, Cass County, mustered out; John M. Riley, Cass County, mustered out; Frederick N. Reichert, Cass County, transferred to Invalid Corps; Isaac Richey, Cass County, mustered out; Henry Rohn, Cass County, mustered out; Uriah Snyder, Cass County, mustered out; Robert Simpson, Cass County, died Memphis, Tenn.; John Sash, Cass County, discharged, disability; Solomon Sills, Cass County, mustered out; Orange E. Sackett, Cass County, mustered out as corporal; John Shellenberger, Cass County, mustered out as corporal; John Sybrant, Cass County, discharged, disability; Conrad Schmehl, Cass County, mustered out; Henry Tromann, Cass County, mustered out, prisoner war; William Thompson, Jr., Cass County, discharged, disability; Zachariah Taylor, Beardstown, mustered out; John Truebswasser, Beardstown, died at Mound City; George Fred Unland, Cass County, transferred to V. R. C.; Leonard Walter, Cass County, died at Memphis; William Wagner, Cass County, discharged, disability; George Washington White, Cass County, mustered out; John T. Webb, Cass County, discharged, disability; Henry Webber, Cass County, died Duckport, La.; John Worm, Cass County, mustered out; John H. Weddeking, Cass County, mustered out; Thomas Williams, Cass County, deserted.

Captain Benjamin C. Berry (Co. D), Virginia, resigned; Captain George H. Martin (Co. D), Virginia, mustered out August 3, 1865; First Lieutenant Thomas S. Berry, Virginia, discharged; First Lieutenant Henry D. Freeman, Virginia, mustered out; Second Lieutenant David N. Downing, Virginia, died at Duckport, La.; First Sergeant Milton Berry, Virginia, mustered



Eben R Crum



Arzora A. Crum

out; Sergeant Josephus Naylor, Virginia, mustered out; Sergeant Frederick Dygert, Virginia, detached; Sergeant John W. Plummer, Virginia, discharged, disability; Sergeant Henry D. Freeman, Virginia, promoted first lieutenant; Corporal Ellis C. Hicks, Chandlerville, died Memphis, Tenn.; Corporal William H. Thompson, Virginia, mustered out; Corporal George H. Martin, Virginia, promoted captain; Corporal William S. Douglas, Lancaster, mustered out; Corporal Martin V. B. Harris, Virginia, mustered out as private; Corporal Buford A. Dowell, Virginia, private; Corporal William A. Harding, Virginia, mustered out; Corporal James B. Berryhill, Virginia, died at Memphis, Tenn.; Alfred R. Massie (musician), Virginia, mustered out; John C. Downing (wagoner), Virginia, died at Memphis.

Privates: Cyrus H. Ator, Virginia, died; Robert A. Beadles, Virginia, promoted fife major; John Beckelhamer, Virginia, mustered out; Thomas B. Beggs, Virginia, died near Vicksburg; Absalom R. Berry, Virginia, mustered out; James Berry, Ashland, mustered out; Lile Berryhill, Virginia, mustered out; Thomas H. Brown, Beardstown, mustered out; Martin W. Clark, Chandlerville, mustered out; Ira F. Collins, Virginia, mustered out, was prisoner; John Cooper, Virginia, mustered out; George W. Cunningham, Virginia, mustered out; John Davis, Virginia, mustered out; Edwin Dygert, Virginia, discharged, disability; John Eastman, Lancaster, mustered out, was prisoner; Henry Ellerman, Virginia, mustered out; John T. Evans, Virginia, mustered out; Josiah Evans, Virginia, discharged, disability; John Geigor, Virginia, —; James S. Harding, Virginia, deserted; Austin Harding, Virginia, mustered out; George W. Hays, Virginia, mustered out; Joseph Hunt, Virginia, mustered out; John S. Kikendall, Virginia, mustered out, was prisoner; Nathaniel W. Lindsey, Virginia, mustered out; Allen Lindsey, Chandlerville, died at home; James A. Lindsey, Virginia, discharged, disability; Erastus D. Lindsey, Beardstown, transferred to Invalid Corps; Franklin Looker, Virginia, deserted; Jacob Metzmaker, Virginia, discharged, disability; Henry C. Massey, Virginia, mustered out, was prisoner; John B. Milner, Virginia, died at Duckport, La.; Isaac P. McClure, Virginia, mustered out; William A. Moore, Virginia, mustered out; Thomas S. Moore, Virginia, mustered out; Levi Needham, Virginia, discharged, disability; John Nuttree, Virginia, mustered out; William Pedigo, Virginia, mustered out; Urbin E. Pedigo, Ashland, died at Duckport, La.; William T. Price, Virginia, mustered out as corporal; David H. Plummer, Virginia, mustered out; J. Wesley Plummer, Virginia, mustered out; William Raber, Virginia, mustered out; Frederick Raber, Virginia, mustered out, was prisoner; Henry Riffer, Lancaster, mustered out as corporal; Leonard R. Simmons, Lancaster, mustered out; Christopher C. Smith, Lancaster, died at St. Louis; Robert R. Stevenson, Virginia, discharged, disability; George J. Stewart, Virginia, mustered out; Samuel C. Stith, Virginia, died at Duckport, La.; James M. Thompson, Virginia, died at Bear Creek, Miss.; John Thompson, Virginia, killed near Tupelo, Miss.; Robert G. Thompson, Virginia, mustered out as corporal; Samuel B. Thompson, Virginia, mustered out, was prisoner; Jacob Turner, Virginia, discharged, disability; James L. Williams, Virginia, mustered out; David Wilson, Virginia, mustered out as wagoner; Albert White, Chandlerville, mustered out as corporal; Casper Wirt, Lancaster, mustered out.

Recruits: Charles W. Anderson, Chandlerville, sergeant transferred to Company B 58th Ill. Inf.; Charles Cunningham, Virginia, transferred to Company A 58th Ill. Inf.; James H. Davis, Virginia, died Memphis, Tenn.; Charles Kikendall, Virginia, transferred to Company A 58th Ill. Inf.; James Knowles, Virginia, mustered out.

First Sergeant Richmond V. Black (Co. F), Lancaster, promoted captain Company H.

Privates: Lucian Burtrum, Ashland, mustered out August 3, 1865; Thomas S. Armstrong, Hagely, died on steamer West Moreland; James W. Conyers, Hagely, mustered out; Llewellyn Davis, Hagely, mustered out; James G. Fox, Berryton, mustered out; Thomas Gist, Ashland, mustered out; Richard Jordon, Berryton, mustered out; Joseph McDonald, Lancaster, missing Guntown, Miss., after battle; James S. Smith, Ashland, discharged, wounds; William A. Smith, Ashland, died at Camp Sherman, Miss.; Lorenzo Tomlin, Ashland, discharged, disability; Henry C. Wilson, Ashland, mustered out; Lycurgus Workman, Ashland, died at New Orleans; John N. Wood, Ashland, mustered out.

First Lieutenant James M. Chadsey (Co. H), Beardstown, mustered out May 25, 1865.

James M. Chadsey (private), Beardstown, promoted sergeant then first lieutenant.

John Thornley (recruit), Ashland, transferred to Company C 58th Ill. Inf.

Recruits: John Mibb (Co. K), Richmond, transferred to Company D 58th Ill. Inf.; John Pickard, Richmond, transferred to Company D 58th Ill. Inf.; John Trumbull, Richmond, transferred to Company D 58th Ill. Inf.

There were a number of persons who enlisted for service in the Civil war, who were assigned to companies and regiments made up in some of the larger counties and cities in which places the boys found themselves in their anxious desire to assist in suppressing the Rebellion. Below is found a roster of the regiments and companies where any Cass County soldiers' names appear on the records, or it has been possible to find them. If any are overlooked, or are not found in the lists it will be for the reason that such names or information was not attainable.

EIGHTEENTH ILLINOIS (REORGANIZED) VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Sergeant Henry Schaeffer (Co. G), Arenzville, mustered out Dec. 16, 1865; Sergeant William Woods, Arenzville, mustered out; Sergeant George Rausch, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal Frederick Renchlier, Arenzville, mustered out; Sergeant Mathew P. Bowyer, Arenzville, mustered out; Sergeant John R. Miller, Arenzville, mustered out; Sergeant William O. Wells, Beardstown, mustered out; Sergeant James L. Black, Beardstown, mustered out.

Privates: Andrew Blantner, Beardstown, mustered out; Henry Broaker, Beardstown, mustered out; Charles Birchlin, Arenzville, mustered out; Francis S. Carner, Arenzville, mustered out; Peter Flarney, Beardstown, died at home; George W. Green, Arenzville, mustered out; James W. Ginder, Arenzville, mustered out; Frederick Holden, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas Harmel, Beardstown, mustered out; Joseph Hein, Beardstown, mustered out; Henry Knoess, Beardstown, mustered out; William Kraft, Arenzville, mustered out; George W. Leonard, Arenzville, mustered out; Henry Lynn, Beardstown, died at Camp Butler; Adam Laffie, Beardstown, sick at muster out; Hugh Kyden, Beardstown, mustered out; William Mayer, Beardstown, mustered out; Moses Miller, Arenzville, mustered out; George J. McDowell, Beardstown, mustered out; Henry Nickel, Lancaster, mustered out; Riley Smith, Beardstown, mustered out; Frederick Schever, Beardstown, mustered out; George Taylor, Beardstown, mustered out.

Corporal John H. Payton (Co. I), Beardstown, mustered out Dec. 16, 1865.

John M. Sanders (private), Beardstown, mustered out.

THIRTY-SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Sergeant-Major John Madden, Virginia, discharged; Dempson Freeman (Co. D), Lancaster, mustered out; William Allen (Co. E), Lancaster, drafted, substitute deserted; Alphonson Tebloda, Lancaster, substitute, mustered out; Captain William H. Hitchcock (Co. G), Beardstown, mustered out Nov. 9, 1864; Second Lieutenant Charles A. Eames, Beardstown, killed at Shiloh; William J. Center (musician), Beardstown, mustered out.

Privates: John Beals, Beardstown, promoted first lieutenant Company E, 61st Ill.; Melvin Burk, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas Barry, Beardstown, deserted; Thomas Bird, Beardstown, died of wounds; James Burns, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Edward A. Cottrell, Beardstown, died at home; David Connell, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Thomas Darkin, Beardstown, deserted; Samuel DeHaven, Beardstown, died at Memphis; Hugh Donnelly, Beardstown, discharged; Benjamin Eyres, Beardstown, killed at Hatcher Run; John Fitzpatrick, Beardstown, deserted; John Flannigan, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Andrew Genning, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Peter Grimes, Beardstown, discharged, wounds; John Haver, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; William Hugo, Beardstown, died at Marietta, Ga.; Anton Hoffman, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; John B. Loomans, Beardstown, mustered out; William McDowell, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; George Swan, Beardstown, died at LaGrange, Tenn.; John Trihey, Beardstown, mustered out; Seth J. Thompson, Beardstown, mustered out.

Veterans: James Burns, Beardstown, mustered out; David Connell, Beardstown, mustered out; John Flannigan, Virginia, mustered out as sergeant; Andrew Gemming, Beardstown, mustered out; Anton Hoffman, Beardstown, killed at Kenesaw Mountain; John Haver, Virginia, mustered out; James Harrell, Chandlerville, mustered out; William B. McDowell, Beardstown, mustered out.

Second Lieutenant John York (Co. H), Cass

County, wounded at Shiloh, died May 9, 1862; Corporal James Hawkshaw, Cass County, mustered out Sept. 7, 1865; Corporal Edward G. Henderson, Cass County, discharged, disability.

Privates: Mathew B. Cross, Cass County, died at Camp Butler; John W. Jarvis, Cass County, discharged, disability; Jesse B. Mexell, Cass County, discharged, disability; Fred Overhacker, Cass County, transferred to Invalid Corps.

THIRTY-FOURTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Second Lieutenant Henry C. Pratt (Co. G), Monroe, mustered out as first sergeant; Sergeant Richard Rudisell, Arenzville, discharged, disability; Sergeant John M. Schaeffer, Monroe, discharged, disability; Corporal James M. Smith, Arenzville, discharged, disability.

Privates: August Apple, Arenzville, re-enlisted as veteran; Fred Boles, Monroe, re-enlisted as veteran; Ira Buck, Monroe, died at Louisville, Ky.; Ernst Dahmann, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Emanuel Hagernab, Monroe, discharged, disability; Henry Heidbrinker, Arenzville, discharged, disability; Henry Meyer, Arenzville, re-enlisted as veteran; Ernst Muller, Arenzville, died at Camp Nevins, Ky.; Henry C. Pratt, Monroe, re-enlisted as veteran; John Roach, Beardstown, —; William Roegge, Arenzville, re-enlisted as veteran; Henry Roegge, Arenzville, re-enlisted as veteran; Joseph Stanley, Monroe, re-enlisted as veteran.

FORTY-SEVENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Privates: Charles F. Burns (Co. C), Beardstown, mustered out; Abe F. Cotrel, Beardstown, mustered out; Benjamin J. Harris, Beardstown, died at Cairo, Ill.; DeWitt McCandless, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas Paschal, Beardstown, mustered out; Woodford or Woodson H. Sills, Beardstown, mustered out.

SIXTY-FIRST ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Recruits: William Fickle (Co. D), Virginia, mustered out; John Gorrell, Virginia, mustered out; Peter P. Gorrell, Virginia, mustered out; George Hicks, Virginia, died at Murfreesboro; William Rudolph, Virginia, mustered out; Chas. Sample, Virginia, mustered out; Adam Weaver, Virginia, mustered out.

First Lieutenant Jedediah Beals (Co. E), Beardstown, died at Evansville, Ind.

Privates: Edward W. Elkin, Beardstown, died at Keokuk, Ia.; John W. Glover, Beardstown, died at St. Louis; Anthony Hill, Beardstown, mustered out; Daniel Rawley, Beardstown, mustered out; William A. Squires, Beardstown, died at St. Louis; George J. Sanders, Beardstown, mustered out; Nick Shoopman, Beardstown, mustered out; Jacob Wells, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Madison Woods, Beardstown, mustered out; Alpheus Wells, Beardstown, died at St. Louis; Asa Winfree, Beardstown, mustered out.

Veterans: John C. Menckel, Beardstown, mustered out, prisoner; John McCormick, Beardstown, mustered out as corporal.

Recruits: Peter Buxton, Beardstown, mustered out; Walter Beals, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Jesse Cobb, Lancaster, mustered out; Daniel B. Grant, Beardstown, mustered out; David L. Hutchinson, Beardstown, mustered out; William T. Milton, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Charles Meyers, Beardstown, mustered out; George T. Ruby, Beardstown, discharged, disability; George W. Shoopman, Beardstown, mustered out; John H. Shoopman, Beardstown, mustered out; Fred Schmitker, Beardstown, mustered out; Jacob Trommen, Beardstown, died at Pittsburg Landing.

Unassigned Recruits: William Boyd (Co. K), Virginia; William Clark, Virginia; Daniel Spillman, Virginia.

SEVENTY-FIRST ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Captain William H. Weaver (Co. G), Beardstown, mustered out Oct. 29, 1862; Second Lieutenant Thomas B. Collins, Virginia, mustered out; Sergeant John E. Dass, Virginia, mustered out; Sergeant Joshua B. Conyers, Hagley, mustered out; Corporal Elijah W. Williams, Hagley, mustered out; Corporal Hooper Monroe, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal Page A. Williams, Hagley, mustered out; Corporal Thomas Smith, Hagley, mustered out.

Privates: George W. Boircourt, Berrytown, died at Cairo; John A. Conyers, Hagley, mustered out; James Cutlam, Lancaster, mustered out; Marcus P. Chandler, Chandlerville, musteed out; John W. Conyers, Hagley, mustered out; William P. Conyers, Hagley, mustered out; William H. Cole, Chandlerville, mustered out; Charles N. Drake, Hagley, mustered out; Albert

Gist, Ashland, mustered out; Charles B. High, Ashland, mustered out; Columbus A. King, Hagley, mustered out; Charles W. Lee, Beardstown, mustered out; Charles C. Magee, Cass County, mustered out; William W. Mathew, Hagley, mustered out; John G. Monroe, Berrytown, mustered out; Thomas B. Nicholson, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas S. Nicholson, Beardstown, mustered out; George W. Parmenter, Beardstown, mustered out; George T. Saunders, Beardstown, mustered out; Samuel W. Smith, Hagley, mustered out; John Thornley, Ashland, mustered out; Joshua Thornley, Ashland, mustered out; Amos Wilson, Chandlerville, mustered out.

EIGHTY-SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Corporal Simon Renz (Co. E), Beardstown, mustered out June 9, 1865, as sergeant.

Privates: Anton Bihl, Beardstown, died of wounds; Charles Beckemeyer, Beardstown, mustered out June 9, 1865; John Heeg, Beardstown, discharged, wounds; August Peter, Beardstown, discharged, disability; William Raue, Beardstown, mustered out June 9, 1865; Phillip Schmidt, Beardstown, deserted Oct. 15, 1862; Anton Seiler, Beardstown, mustered out June 9, 1865.

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIFTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Captain William H. Weaver (Co. G), Beardstown, mustered out; Second Lieutenant Ebenzer Fish, Beardstown, mustered out; Sergeant William McDeHaven, Beardstown, mustered out; Sergeant Morris J. Oliver, Beardstown, mustered out; Sergeant Edwin C. Foster, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal James Caldwell, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal James A. Lindsey, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal William McClure, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal Edward P. Logan, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal Samuel Webb, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal Clinton Garrison, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal John P. Sanders, Beardstown, mustered out in arrest.

Privates: Abram Black, Beardstown, mustered out; Randall Black, Beardstown, mustered out; Lewis Cowan, Beardstown, mustered out; Allen Cunningham, Beardstown, mustered out; David Clendenin, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas Cowan, Beardstown, mustered out; Ernest Corte, Beardstown, mustered out; John W. Chase, Beardstown, mustered out; Charles B. Danbaugh, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas J. DeHaven, Beardstown, mustered out; John Samuel Fulks, Beardstown, mustered out; James Griffin, Beardstown, mustered out; John W. Hamilton, Beardstown, mustered out; Zachariah Hamilton, Beardstown, mustered out; Guilford C. Judd, Beardstown, mustered out; Harrison G. Livingston, Beardstown, mustered out; Horace Littlefield, Beardstown, mustered out; Henry C. McLane, Beardstown, mustered out; George McDowell, Beardstown, mustered out; William Mayer, Beardstown, mustered out; Henry C. Millner, Beardstown, mustered out; James H. Matthews, Beardstown, mustered out; Andrew J. Norton, Beardstown, mustered out; Rudolph B. Oliver, Beardstown, mustered out; Frank Peterson, Beardstown, mustered out; William C. Rew, Beardstown, mustered out; Samuel W. Robinson, Beardstown, mustered out; William Roach, Beardstown, mustered out; John H. Rose, Beardstown, mustered out; Levi O. Spangler, Beardstown, mustered out; Charles Schneider, Beardstown, mustered out; Lewis Ware, Beardstown, died at Rollo, Mo.; Eason White, Beardstown, mustered out; Willis White, Beardstown, mustered out.

Recruits: Christopher Mertz, Beardstown, mustered out.

SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.

Sergeant Stephan W. Lee (Co. C), Virginia, discharged: Corporal Robert Adams, Virginia, mustered out as sergeant.

Privates: William J. Andrews, Virginia, discharged; John Q. Dunlap, Virginia, discharged; Henry Gans, Virginia, re-enlisted as veteran; Albert S. Looker, Virginia, discharged; Geutry Abbott (Co. H), Beardstown; John Hash (Co. M), Chandlerville, died Paducah, Ky.

Unassigned Recruit: John H. Harris, Virginia, died.

THIRD ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.

The Third Illinois Volunteer Cavalry was organized at Camp Butler in August, 1861, by Col. Eugene A. Carr, an officer of the regular army, and a graduate of West Point. The regiment remained in camp until September 25, when it was sent to St. Louis, Mo., and on October 1 removed to Jefferson City, and from thence to Warsaw, where it built a bridge across the



STATE STREET, BEARDSTOWN, MEMORIAL DAY



FISH-FRY DAY, BEARDSTOWN, AFTER THE HARVEST IS OVER



PARK HOTEL, BEARDSTOWN, BUILT IN 1853



"BALD EAGLE," AN ILLINOIS RIVER STEAMBOAT APPROACHING BEARDSTOWN



STEEL WAGON AND FOOT BRIDGE OVER THE ILLINOIS RIVER AT BEARDSTOWN
River at High Water Stage, 1913



Remains of the Largest of Several Mounds Built by the Early Mound Builders, at the Present Site of Beardstown on the Illinois River. The Buildings Were Erected About 1846; Buildings and Mounds Have Entirely Disappeared.

Osage River. Then the march was continued to Springfield, Mo. Carr's brigade was under the command of General Fremont, but on arrival at Springfield, Fremont was relieved and General Hunter assumed command. The regiment was stationed at Rolla, from November 19 to December 29. After several skirmishes during the winter the regiment engaged in the battle of Pea Ridge, March 6, 1862, and in a three-days' engagement, the Third Cavalry lost ten killed and forty wounded. Three weeks later the regiment was sent hurriedly to Fayetteville, Ark., where it drove out the enemy, and on the 19th it moved back to Keyesville, Mo. On April 29, the Third Cavalry arrived at West Plains, but in the meanwhile on the 25th of the month, while crossing White River, Captain McClellan of Company H, with five enlisted men, was drowned by the overturning of the ferry boat. On June 4, the regiment fell back to Fairview and on the 7th Captain Sparks and sixty-six men were surrounded by 300 of the enemy's cavalry, but cut their way out, although having four wounded and four taken prisoners. On July 5, the regiment began a long march for Helena, Ark., reaching there after ten days of hard marching and fighting, famished for food and water. By this time the regiment had become more or less inured to hard army life. It was engaged in other battles: Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, Black River Bridge, and the Siege of Vicksburg. In 1864 a large number re-enlisted as veterans, the remainder being mustered out September 5, 1864. The veterans participated in the repulse of Forrest at Memphis, and in the battles of Laurenceburg, Spring Hill, Campbellsville and Franklin, and were mustered out at Springfield, Ill., October 18, 1865. The regiment's roster follows:

Captain Charles P. Dunbaugh (Co. C), Beardstown, resigned; Captain David Black, Beardstown, resigned; Captain Erasmus R. Loar, Beardstown, mustered out; First Lieutenant Augustus W. Tilford, Beardstown, resigned; First Lieutenant James B. Black, Cass County, resigned; First Lieutenant Alpheus Conover, Beardstown, Co. F consolidated; First Sergeant James S. Crow, Beardstown, promoted battalion adjutant; Sergeant Theodore Leland, Beardstown, promoted battalion adjutant; David Clendenin, Beardstown, discharged; Corporal William Richland, Beardstown, mustered out; Corporal James H. Lyneh, Lancaster, discharged, wounds, Pea Ridge; Corporal Charles E. Burns, Beardstown, transferred Company A 14th Ill. Inf.; Corporal James M. Hopkins, Beardstown, mustered out as sergeant; Corporal Daniel Yeck, Cass County, transferred to V. R. C.; Corporal James Nason, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Grenop P. Tilford (blacksmith), Beardstown, mustered out; Henry B. Everly (saddler), Cass County, died.

Privates: Andrew T. Anderson, Cass County, mustered out as corporal; Joseph Anderson, Beardstown, mustered out as sergeant; Charles Boxmire, Beardstown, mustered out as corporal; William Boxmire, Beardstown, mustered out; James B. Black, Cass County, promoted; Robert Bailey, Beardstown, discharged; William H. Chamberlin, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Charles Coleman, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Martin W. Finney, Beardstown, transferred to Company A 14th Ill. Inf.; August Funk, Monroe, missing in action, Okalona, Miss.; Daniel Grant, Beardstown, —; Adam Guling, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Joseph A. Hutchens, Virginia, discharged; George F. Kleinstiber, Arenzville, mustered out as corporal; Joseph A. McCandless, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; John Miniek, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; John Miller, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Robert McFarlan, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; William Nicholson, Beardstown, mustered out; Thomas E. W. Owton, Cass County, discharged; Henry Pouch, Cass County, died at St. Louis; William H. H. Pereival, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Horation G. Rew, Beardstown, killed at Byhalia, Miss.; John J. Reeves, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; George Specker, Beardstown, mustered out; James Sykes, Lancaster, re-enlisted as veteran; George T. Sprouse, Chandlerville, re-enlisted as veteran; Henry C. Simpson, Beardstown, died at Springfield, Mo.; Newton R. P. Williams, Ashland, discharged; George F. Wagner, Beardstown, died at Memphis, Tenn; William E. F. Wells, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; Jacob H. Yeck, Arenzville, mustered out.

Veterans: Sergeant Norman Parsons, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; Corporal William Fair, Beardstown, transferred to Company F.

Privates: Lewis Beckman, Chandlerville, transferred to Company F; Joseph Barwick, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; John H. Beadles, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; John Hatfield, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; John Miller, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; Williams Snow, Beards-

town, transferred to Company F; Martin Treadway, Beardstown, transferred to Company F.

Recruits: Aaron Abney, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; Thomas Barber, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; Henry Coleman, Beardstown, transferred to Company F; William A. Cunningham, Virginia, died at Helena, Ark.; William DeHaven, Beardstown, promoted to sergeant major; John S. Elliott, Berrytown, transferred to Company F; John Elliott, Virginia, killed near Tupelo, Miss.; James Finchurn, Lancaster, transferred to Company F; Albert Gilbert, Lancaster, transferred to Company F; David Griffin, Beardstown, discharged; Zachariah J. Hopkins, Virginia, transferred to Company F; John J. Higginson, Lancaster, transferred to Company F; George W. Snow, Beardstown, discharged; Henry M. Sturtevant, Beardstown, promoted to second lieutenant; Davis A. Tull, Beardstown, discharged; Martin Treadway, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran; David H. Wells, Beardstown, transferred to Company F.

Unassigned Recruit: William B. Warren. transferred to Company F.

THIRD ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY (Consolidated).

Private John Pence (Co. B), Beardstown, mustered out.

Recruits: George Barneycastle (Co. F), Beardstown, mustered out; William M. DeHaven, Beardstown, mustered out; Hiram B. Grant, Beardstown, mustered out; John N. Rosenberger, Beardstown, mustered out; John H. Thornsberry, Beardstown, mustered out; Lewis Thompson, Beardstown, mustered out; Willis S. Wright, Beardstown, mustered out:

Captain Alpheus Conover (Co. G).

Privates: Benjamin F. Barrom (Co. I), Beardstown, mustered out; Casper Coleman, Beardstown, mustered out; James A. Geer, Beardstown, mustered out; Charles Kirkham, Beardstown, mustered out; Warren H. Monett, Beardstown, mustered out; Joshua Mibb, Beardstown; George Olden, Beardstown; William Ruff, Beardstown; William Rhodes, Beardstown, mustered out; David Shraeder, Beardstown, mustered out; John I. Wolford, Beardstown; Peter Wolford, Beardstown; Johnathan H. Anthony (Co. K), Chandlerville, mustered out.

Unassigned Recruits: Leonard Shraeder, Beardstown, died at Camp Butler; John Freese, Lancaster; William Whitlow, Beardstown.

SECOND ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

Veterans: John W. Anders, (Battery B), Beardstown, mustered out; Charles Carper, Virginia, mustered out; Jacob Coultis, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Amos B. Dennison, Beardstown, discharged; Francis M. Davis, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Henry H. Dunham, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Elias J. Livermore, Beardstown, discharged, disability; John McKenzie, Beardstown, discharged, disability; John Meyers, Beardstown, discharged, disability; George Noble, Beardstown, discharged, disability; John B. Sanders, Beardstown, discharged, disability; Edward Weinschenk, Cass County, discharged, disability; Asa J. Whitsel, Beardstown, re-enlisted as veteran.

CHAPTER XV.

AGRICULTURE AND COUNTY FAIRS.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES PARAMOUNT — CASS COUNTY LAND PRODUCTIVE — FIRST CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE SOIL IN 1840 — PIONEER ACTIVITIES — EARLY FARM IMPLEMENTS — THREE-CORNERED HARROW — SHOVEL PLOW — THE JUMPER — THE SICKLE — THE CRADLE — THE GROUND HOG THRESHER — MANY CHANGES — MODERN STEAM THRESHER — STEAM PLOW — TWINE BINDER — RIDING PLOW — POTATO DIGGER — CORN HUSKER AND SHREDDER — INVENTIONS MAKE MECHANICS OF FARMERS — PIONEER SWEETENING — LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY — TRIAL OF PURE BRED CATTLE — MANY PROMINENT MEN FOR A TIME INTERESTED — BREEDING OF FINE HORSES — FARMERS AND THEIR FARMS — INCREASED HOME COMFORT — CASS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY — THE VIRGINIA PARK ASSOCIATION — FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES PARAMOUNT.

The agricultural industries of Cass County began, like those of all the counties, when the

earliest settlements were made. The first thing necessary was, of course, food for the settler and for such stock as he brought with him. Oxen which drew so many of the "prairie schooners" to this county were more easily cared for than other animals, as they could live off the grass in the summer-time, of which there was an abundance, and which was cut and stored away for winter use. Milch cows were turned out to roam the woods, their instinct leading them to follow one of the herd upon which a bell was placed. Often horses too were turned out with a bell on one so it might the more readily be traced by its owner and brought home if it failed to "come up," bringing the string with it. Although there was a great abundance and variety of wild fruit in the timber, and the settlers availed themselves of these natural products, yet that would not supply all their need of food. We learn from what the earliest settlers tell us and from what we can read of those days in the records the pioneers have left, that about the first thing the settler did after getting a house of some sort to shelter his family, and a shed for his horses, was to prepare a "patch" of ground in which to plant corn, it being a recognized fact that corn, maize, was the cereal most easily grown in this latitude and climate. Then ten years between the time when the first settlers began to arrive, and permanently locate, and the creation of the County of Cass, saw a great many farms opened, cleared and fenced, and even some of the stubborn prairie land well broken.

Very little of the 360 square miles of land in Cass County is unfit for agricultural uses. That which is not suitable, or at least profitable to plant or sow to cereals, or other crops, is utilized for pasturage. A few square miles that are yet of such a character, and are used for hunting and fishing preserves, are by reason of drainage districts and levees, being rapidly reduced from square miles to square acres. About two-fifths of the land is a rich prairie soil, capable of producing the maximum yield of corn, wheat and oats, which are the principal crops. More than a fifth is found in the Sangamon and Illinois river bottoms, and is of that quality of alluvial soil known only to the rich river valleys of this part of the United States. The remainder is of the timber soil and the unreclaimed bottom lands above mentioned as fishing and hunting grounds, and a few sand ridges. The timber lands have been almost denuded of timber, and have, by reason of proper cultivation and scientific rotation of crops become almost as productive as the prairie lands. Besides the cereals above mentioned, rye, barley, buckwheat, potatoes, both Irish and sweet, are produced, and a great variety of garden vegetables grown for family use, and also for marketing. Watermelons and muskmelons, which, in the last few years have been grown and shipped to the market in carloads, form a great source of revenue from lands formerly deemed worthless. The sandy soil near Beardstown, and in fact all through the Illinois river bottom is peculiarly adapted to the production of melons of both kinds, and sweet potatoes. The grasses grown are timothy and red clover and alfalfa, the last only recently, and not yet in any considerable quantity. It is still in the experimental stage, but is attracting much attention, and while the soil in the county best adapted for its production is limited, it is quite certain that efforts will be made to grow much more of it than has been done in the past.

Agriculture, by very necessity, is the oldest occupation of man, and will, of course, ever be the occupation which will attract the interest of governments. Indeed all governments have given great care to everything pertaining to the soil, its products, and all agricultural pursuits, and wisely so, for the rapid increase of population is bringing to the front the most serious problem that confronts all nations in peace or war, that of supplying food for the people. Aid has been given the agricultural industries by the legislatures of all the states of the Union, and by the federal government itself. Schools have been established for the scientific study of soils, and of the better methods of cultivation and fertilization. It was in 1840, only three years after the organization of Cass County, that Justus Liebig and Bausingault began the chemical analysis of the soil, since when great progress has been made in that line and the methods of farming have been practically revolutionized. It was Colton who truly said: "Agriculture is the most certain source of strength, health and independence. Commerce flourishes by circumstances precarious, contingent, transitory, almost as liable to change as the winds and waves which waft it to our shores." Under the old methods of farming, for the first quarter of a century, it was about all the farmer could do to grow sufficient food for

himself and family. Indeed there was little encouragement for him to attempt more, for the low prices of all products, the uncertainty of a market, the depressing labor necessary to their production for the market, all made farming distasteful to the generation succeeding the early settlers, and resulted in the desire to find other employment more agreeable which promised more ready returns for labor. Those who participated in the early methods are glad to forget them, and those who have had no personal experience, when they do hear of them, are thankful they live in another age.

EARLY FARM IMPLEMENTS.

To return to pioneer activities. After the trees and brush had been cleared away, the early settler broke his land, and then if he was fortunate enough to possess an old "A" harrow, he dragged it over the ground to level it to some degree. Then if corn was to be planted, the ground was laid off by a sort of three-runner sled one way, and a shovel plow the other way. The corn was dropped by hand, by the boys and girls, the men following and covering it with a hoe. When there were not too many stumps in the way and the ground was sufficiently loose, a more expeditious method of covering the corn was adopted. A "jumper" was made like a single shovel plow, only the shovel was made square on the edge that entered the ground, and the driver would hold to both handles and when he reached the spot where the corn lay, he would lift up the plow, leaving the loose dirt dragged up to cover the corn; that is, the driver kept jumping the hill with the plow, leaving the dirt to drop on the corn, and hence the name "jumper" was given to this style of plow. In the hands of a stout armed, skillful plowman, this implement did very satisfactory work. When the first corn planter came into use it was some time before the wary farmer could put trust in it to drop and cover the corn; he would be seen scratching in the ground behind "that new-fangled thing," to see if the corn was really in the ground.

The wheat, oats, barley, rye and similar grains were all sown by hand "broadcast," as it was called, and when it came to harvesting, the work all had to be done by hand, even the sickle, the implement of thousands of years ago, was at first the only tool with which the pioneer's grain was cut from the ground. For some time prior to 1860, a great portion of the grain grown in Cass County was cut with a "cradle," after inventive genius had given us something as a substitute for the old-time sickle. A cradle was made with a blade of steel nearly like a scythe blade, above which was a frame built, with five fingers of hard wood, shaped to follow the curve or partial circle of the blade. The fingers were supported by upright cross bars of light hard wood, and braced from the handle with small iron rods. The handle was attached to the blade like a scythe handle, but at the outer end it curved upward so as to form a hand hold, and on the handle, down toward the blade, was an extension handle similar to the extension handles on common mowing scythes of the present day. A few old cradles may occasionally be seen among the relics of old families, preserved from primitive days.

THRESHING MACHINES.

The first threshers were the old "ground hogs," which knocked the grain out of the straw but did not clean it. The grain had to be cleaned of the chaff, either by the method used when it was flailed out, that is by tossing it up in a large sheet or cloth and letting the wind do the work of cleaning, or it had to be run through a fanning mill, the like of which, with some slight improvements, are in use still for cleaning wheat, seed, etc. Later, the separator or threshing machine was so improved that it cleaned the wheat ready for the mill or market. Horse power was first used as motive power; and when an old, broken-down threshing machine made its appearance in a neighborhood at threshing time, it created as much excitement as a onering circus would at the present day. The lamp of genius has burned as brightly and wrought as wonderful changes as Aladdin's of old, and we now have the steam thresher, the steam plow, the twine binder, the various riding plows, both for breaking the soil and for cultivating the corn, the potato digger, and the corn husker and shredder. In fact, so many and varied are the farm machines and mechanical appliances for use in agricultural pursuits, that farmer boys are often now mechanics and engineers, from practical use of the same and what was once drudgery on the farm has become a training in mechanics.

Among the earlier land products was flax. It was sowed, gathered, hatcheled, spun and even



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woven, and such uses made of it as was possible by home industry in those primitive days. It was found, however, that its cultivation in Cass County was not profitable, and the industry was abandoned. A few people undertook also to grow cotton, and it is said on good authority that prior to the "deep snow," in the winter of 1830-31, from which many events are dated, the settlers raised sufficient cotton to supply their limited needs. The seed was extracted by hand, the cotton carded by hand carders, and then spun into thread and finally woven; all of this labor being performed by the women and children. From the time of this unusual storm, however, the climate seems to have undergone a very material change, and has proven unsuitable for the growth of cotton, although a few small fields were to be seen as late as 1860. It was a very common thing to see a small field or "patch" of buckwheat on the farms of the early settlers.

PIONEER SWEETENING.

A great number of families kept a few swarms of bees and the flower of the buckwheat was considered almost indispensable to the bees in their work of manufacturing the best of honey. This was a great article of commerce, and the beeswax was also eagerly sought, but more of both products was obtained from the wild than the domestic bees. The woods were full of bees, almost every hollow tree might be expected to contain a swarm of bees with a large supply of honey. Therefore much honey and beeswax were shipped to St. Louis by the Illinois River; these articles forming a large part of the cargo of the rafts, the earliest crafts on the river. As a great portion of the timber land was yet owned by the Government, it was not considered unlawful or improper to cut a bee tree, no matter where it was found. Even after the land was entered, and enclosed by the settlers, there was an unwritten law that any person finding a bee tree had the right to cut it. It became customary, however, for the bee-hunter when he cut a tree, if it was on land whose owner was known and lived in the neighborhood, to take a portion of the honey to the landowner. The settlers were pretty well supplied with honey the year round. The next best thing of a saccharine nature used by the early settlers, and by many to this day, was molasses made from sugar cane or sorghum. This was grown much more in the earlier days than now, although in several parts of the country sorghum forms a part of the regular annual crop. In planting, it was drilled in rows as wide as corn rows, and the patch was usually placed in the end of a corn field, so that it could be cultivated at the time of plowing the corn. When ripe the boys were put into the patch to "strip" it. That process was the pulling off of all the blades, and tying them into bundles to be stored away for feed for the stock in winter. Then the tops were cut off and stored away for seed for the next year, and for chicken feed. After stripping and topping, the stock was cut down and hauled to the mill. Several such mills were to be found in each neighborhood. Those used in the earliest times, and for some time on, were made of two upright rollers of wood, set close together, leaving space enough for the cane to pass through and yet crush out all the juice, which ran down into a receptacle placed at the bottom of the rollers. A great lever or beam extended from the top of the rollers out for quite a distance, and dropped at the outer end, where a horse was hitched as the propelling power. The horse moved in a circle and the "feeder" stood close by the rollers or cylinders, or sat down if he wished, the beam being high enough to pass over his head, as he poked the cane between the rollers. This simple device answered the purpose very well, and in molasses making season, the screeching of the old sugar cane windlass could be heard for a mile or more on any frosty morning. The molasses was made by boiling the cane juice in great metal pans over improvised outdoor furnaces. Most of the settlers were skilled in this boiling process and the youngsters had great sport in camping out at night to watch and keep up the fires.

LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY.

The breeding, raising and feeding of live stock has been one of the important industries of the county, of course closely connected with other agricultural pursuits. The largest farming and stock raising industry of the county until about 1874, was conducted by John Prunty, who owned nearly one thousand acres of land west and northwest of Ashland in section 29, and section 32, township 17, range 8. In the year 1874 he planted about seven hundred acres in corn, thus changing the quality of his products. Mr. Prunty came to Cass County in 1834, and is said to be

the first person to grow timothy in the county, and also the first who erected stock scales. Cattle and hogs had, prior to that time, been "guessed off" or driven to market and there weighed, and when Mr. Prunty erected his scales, it is said hundreds of people came to witness the experiment of weighing cattle. As far back as 1850 Mr. Prunty fed and prepared for market 150 head of cattle that averaged in weight over one thousand six hundred pounds. Most of the cattle prepared for market, either by feeding or grazing, were driven east even as far as Baltimore. In 1842 a man named Long had 700 head of cattle ready for the market and started them out 100 head at a time, the first bunch on the first of March. It was seven weeks before the last herd went out of the county. Two men went with each herd; one led a steer and the other drove. John A. Petefish, for many years a prosperous farmer of Cass County, and one of the organizers of the Centennial National Bank of Virginia, regards as an interesting incident of his life his trip with a drove of cattle, during which he walked from the vicinity of Virginia to Baltimore, leading a steer.

There were a number of cattle feeders in the early years of Cass County, among them being: Jacob Epler, Jacob Petefish, Sr., David Epler, Christ Crum, John Epler, Levi Conover, Jacob Dinaway in partnership with Jacob D. Ward and James Crum. Among those of later years who engaged with more or less profit in feeding and shipping stock were: John W. Seaman, James Dick and his sons, Phil Bnraker, George Rawlings, William Stevenson and sons, Widmayer Bros., George H. Henderson, I. M. Stribling, F. C. Fox, Henry Campbell, George Virgin, George A. Beard, George Cosner, W. H. Conover, C. W. Conover, Marcus L. Crum, James Crawford and Henry Quigg. From the time these later shippers began, or embarked in the business to any considerable extent, railroad facilities for shipping were open to the market at St. Louis and Chicago, and through to the East. Robert Hall, who also shipped many cattle, often took them to New York or eastern markets by rail.

The breeding and raising of pure bred cattle of various kinds was also engaged in to some extent. John Prunty, before mentioned, and William Stevenson and sons, had several herds of Durham or Short Horns which they often exhibited at the county and state fairs, and were very successful in obtaining first premiums on many of their exhibits. General Lippincott also engaged quite extensively in the breeding of fine blooded cattle on his Flat Meadow Farm, adjoining Chandlerville on the west, in the Sangamon bottom. While he produced cattle of a very high grade and of most excellent quality, he was not successful in the enterprise financially. He paid fabulous prices for individuals, and although they produced him some most excellent individuals in return, yet he could not dispose of them for anywhere near the prices he had paid, nor at a price that would remunerate him for the cost of maintenance. The profitable period of feeding and shipping cattle did not last a great length of time in the county, and the wiser ones abandoned the business to avert serious loss. Some few continued long after it ceased to be profitable to the general cattle men, in the hope that a turn for the better would occur, and they added materially to the financial prosperity of the county by their efforts in that industry.

The breeding of horses was engaged in by a number of individuals and firms. About 1880, the trotting horse fever struck the county. A company was formed and imported a fine high-priced horse from Kentucky, named Margrave. I. M. Stribling & Sons had the registered trotter, Prospect King No. 6176, which was, perhaps, the finest show horse of his time, in this part of the state. He was not a record breaker for speed, but could trot in low time. Other trotters were: Membrino King, Dubuque, Diatonic, Georgia, Francis M., Golight, and a few others whose names cannot now be recalled. Francis M. was owned by Archibald Mains, and was one of the first show horses in this part of Illinois, and was awarded first prize at the St. Louis Exposition in 1902. A number of individuals and firms and companies later began the breeding of draft horses, on seeing that the trotting horse was not so profitable as had been anticipated, and that the market for roadsters was much more limited than that of the draft or general purpose horse. The latter venture proved much more successful and many are still engaged regularly in this industry.

FARMERS AND THEIR FARMS.

The census of 1840, the first taken after the organization of Cass County, gives 582 persons engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county. By 1870 there were 2,231 engaged in farming, and we had 92,902 acres of improved lands, and

of unimproved woodland, 33,493 acres; other unimproved lands, 6,604 acres. All of this land was valued at $4,591,535. It will be interesting to note that in 1910 the farm lands amounted to 207,007 acres, and the woodland land, 26,114 acres, and the unimproved included in or connected with farms, 13,161 acres. The value of all farm lands was placed at $24,458,480. The values have nearly doubled since 1900, when they were at $12,658,084, an increase of 93.2 per cent.

A comparison of the figures of the production of the cereals in the county in the years 1870 and 1910 will show better than any words what progress has been made in agriculture.

1870		1910	
Wheat,	139,219 bu.	Wheat,	765,025 bu.
Corn,	1,146,980 bu.	Corn,	2,675,166 bu.
Oats,	2,772 bu.	Oats,	393,285 bu.
Rye,	4,136 bu.	Rye,	5,293 bu.
Hay,	4,136 tons.	Hay,	10,337 tons.

All other crops have increased in like ratio.

Quoting of additional figures would add little to the value of the information. The above clearly proves that the farmers of Cass County have kept up with the improved conditions and the progress of the times.

INCREASED HOME COMFORT.

The homes of the farmers have been greatly improved, and many indeed that within the memory of persons yet living, had but log cabins or other rude, comfortless houses, now have every modern convenience, including a water supply throughout the house, electric lights, and hot air or steam heat, and every detail the ingenuity of man has provided to make home life enjoyable, in the way of material comforts.

CASS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

About 1853 the matter of organizing agricultural societies and of holding county fairs was agitated throughout the state, and many such were organized. On January 2, 1856, the Cass County Agricultural Society was organized at the courthouse at Beardstown. At a subsequent meeting held at Virginia, on June 15 of the same year, a constitution for the society was reported by a committee which had been previously appointed to draft and present the same, and was adopted. Nothing further was done that year, but in the following year it was thought best to incorporate a Fair Grounds Association, and an application was made to the Legislature, through Dr. Samuel Christy, who then represented Cass County in the lower house, and a charter was granted on February 17, 1857. The incorporators named were: John Prunty, William Stevenson, Samuel H. Petefish, Jacob Ward, James M. Hill, David Epler, and Isaac M. Stribling. The name given the organization was The Cass County Fair Grounds Association. This association purchased of Robert Hall 10 acres of ground adjoining Virginia on the west, and leased it to the agricultural society which had been organized the previous year. Both societies were composed of nearly the same persons, and frequently the same men were elected officers of both organizations. The first officers of the agricultural society were: Francis Arenz, president; Ezra Dutch, treasurer; John W. Sweeny, secretary, and John W. Seamon, James Hickey, Milton Stribling, John Prunty and Ebenezer Fish, directors. This organization continued in existence and held annual fairs until about 1886, when it was discontinued. New officers were elected each year and exhibits of live stock and agricultural products were encouraged by the offer of liberal prizes. These fairs were a great source of entertainment, education and culture, and their effect was felt by the agricultural community, and aided materially in producing the excellent results in farming shown by the comparative figures given above.

THE VIRGINIA PARK ASSOCIATION.

The Virginia Park Association had been organized and incorporated July 8, 1881, by R. W. Rabourn, George Conover and J. N. Gridley, who opened books for stock and a large number of persons interested in agriculture and stock raising subscribed. The last few county fairs were held under the auspices of this association which had bought the old fair grounds. The last one was held in 1889. Following that a few racing meets were held, but no agricultural fairs until 1891, when John McHenry and Charles Æ. Martin concluded to attempt the holding of a fair themselves. The association offered generously to donate the use of its grounds, and these two gentlemen proceeded to select a suitable corps of assistants and held what was known as "The Big Fair," and it was, in fact, a big fair. The Farmers' Alliance was then still in existence, and it was thought advisable to interest that

body. The best attractions were sought and many obtained. That year was about the beginning of the scheme of sending out "advertising cars" by some of the western land companies to advertise their land by exhibiting products of the soil, etc. One of these exhibits was secured from Texas, and the B. & O. S. W. Railroad Company was induced to lay a spur track into the grounds. The car made a very attractive and interesting exhibit. Another feature of the fair was addresses by prominent persons on the afternoon of each day. No county fair in the state ever gathered together on four successive afternoons so many prominent and able men of national repute as were gathered in Virginia the second week in August, 1891. There were: Gov. Joseph Fifer, of Illinois, who was then in the executive chair; ex-Governor Hubbard, of Texas, who had been ambassador to Japan under President Cleveland; ex-Governor and Senator Palmer of Illinois, and Senator Peffer, the Populist, of Kansas. It is needless to say that this array of prominent visitors attracted a large audience, which, together with all the other attractions and exhibits, made the fair very successful. The next year the same persons held a fair, however with less success, but without financial loss, but, feeling that the risk was too great, and because of the further fact that the World's Columbian Exposition was to be held at Chicago in 1893, and many people believing, with excellent reason, that there would be very little interest taken in local fairs, it was decided not to hold another fair. The apprehension of the interference of the World's Fair proved to be well founded, as county fairs all over the state suffered very materially thereby. Cass County has never since held an agricultural fair. At the March term of the Circuit Court of Cass County, in 1910, a bill was filed to dissolve the Park Association, upon which bill a decree was rendered during the January term of said court in 1911, and on February 11, 1911, a sale of the real estate of the association, the old Fair Grounds, was made to Marcellus C. Petefish, who built thereon a fine residence, and turned the beautiful park into a splendid suburban home.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

By legislative act, approved June 24, 1895, Farmers' Institutes were organized, regular meetings being required held in each of the congressional districts once a year. County organizations were formed, and Cass County, which has always been active in any movement to advance the interests of the farming industries or better its condition, formed an organization, and has been holding meetings annually for a number of years. The purpose and original design of this organization was to encourage practical education among the farmers, and to assist in developing the agricultural resources of the state. To this end, at the meetings, such topics as cultivation of various crops, the care and breeding of domestic animals, dairying, horticulture, farm drainage, and improvement of highways, are discussed, and a lecture is usually delivered on some one or other of these subjects by some one scientifically and practically informed. The effect of the work of this organization has been materially felt, and the excellent results are seen in every locality of the county. Very much of the increased production and valuable improvement are traceable to the active participation in this movement by the energetic farmers of Cass County.

CHAPTER XVI.

EDUCATION.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS LEAD—THE ENABLING ACT—CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF 1870 ON EDUCATION—A BEGINNING OF THE FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM—AGITATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT—FREE SCHOOL ACT PASSED IN 1855—NONE BUT FREE SCHOOLS NOW IN CASS COUNTY—VIRGINIA SEMINARY OF PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—VIRGINIA SEMINARY OF THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—UNION COLLEGE OF THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—REVIEW OF EARLY SCHOOLS—TEACHERS AND PUPILS RECALLED—MONROE PRECINCT EARLIEST IN THE FIELD—WALNUT GROVE OR PRINCETON—RICHMOND PRECINCT—PUNCHEON GROVE — HICKORY — BLUFF SPRINGS — OREGON—PANTHER CREEK OR CHANDLERVILLE—ARENZVILLE — ASHLAND — HISTORY OF BEARDSTOWN SCHOOLS BY HON. JOHN LISTMAN—ONE TEACHER RETAINED FOR ALMOST A HALF CENTURY—VIR-



Eng by E. G. Williams Bro. N.Y.

Mary L. Brum

GINIA SCHOOLS—LARGE LOSSES BY FIRE—FINE MODERN STRUCTURE—APPORTIONMENT OF TEACHERS — SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS LEAD.

The educational interests of Cass County are represented almost exclusively by the public schools. With the exception of a few parochial schools, maintained by some of the church organizations, which do not in any way interfere with the attendance of their pupils on the public schools, the whole school system and institutions of learning are under the supervision of the officers created by the school laws establishing a free school system for the state of Illinois. The state was very slow in adopting the suggestion made in the ordinance of 1787, "for the government of the territory northwest of the River Ohio," which appears in Article III of that ordinance and is as follows: "Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall be forever encouraged."

THE ENABLING ACT.

The act of Congress of April 18, 1818, to enable the people of Illinois to form a constitution and state government, commonly spoken of as "the enabling act," emphasized the idea that schools should have governmental support by submitting for acceptance by the state, the proposition contained in an act of Congress passed May 17, establishing the rectangular system of land measure, that section number 16 in every township (and when such section has been sold or otherwise disposed of, other lands equivalent thereto, as contiguous as may be) shall be granted to the state, for the use of the inhabitants of such township for the use of schools. The constitutional convention for the new state of Illinois met at Kaskaskia, and on August 26, 1818, passed an ordinance accepting the enabling act, including the proposition concerning the reservation of section 16 of every township for the use of the schools. Notwithstanding this reminder before them, the delegates to that convention omitted to mention the subject in the constitution. Not a word was said about schools in the entire instrument, and although there was, under the reservation, thousands of acres of valuable land set aside as a source of revenue for this most laudable purpose, no safeguards were thrown about the control or management of this vast estate. There was no word of encouragement, much less any mandatory provisions concerning the establishment of schools to reap the benefits of the wise and generous donation of the general government. Nor was the second constitution any better. It made no reference directly to the establishing of schools, but only incidentally mentioned the subject in section 3 of article 9, providing that certain property including necessary school property should be exempt from taxation, and again in section 5 of the same article, vesting corporate authorities, including school districts with power to "assess and collect taxes for corporate purposes."

It was not until the constitutional convention of 1870 that the citizens of the state appear to have deemed the subject of sufficient importance to entitle it to notice. That constitutional convention devoted an entire article of the new constitution to education.

The first section is in the following mandatory language.

"The General Assembly shall provide a thorough and efficient system of free schools whereby all children of this state may receive a good common school education." These words are few, but are broad and sweeping in their import. They have received a very liberal construction by the Supreme court of this state.

The second section provides for the faithful application of all school funds, donations of property, grants and gifts to the objects for which they were made. Had some provisions of a like character been incorporated in the first constitution, or even in the second, there would have been less devastation of the school property and especially of the school land reserved by the government. There would have been no selling of vast territories of the school lands at inadequate prices, and the money borrowed by the state to pay current expenses. The third section prohibited the making of any grant or appropriation of public funds for or in aid of any church or sectarian purpose. The last section provided for the election and qualification of a county superintendent of schools for each county. The public schools are products of evolution in the educational line. It is true that after a certain period in the life of our state, and for that matter of all the western states, there appeared to be a new birth of educational thought and meth-

ods of pedagogy, and indeed in everything pertaining to the teaching and training of the child mind, but, nevertheless when it is examined closely, it will be found to be an evolution of the early system of subscription schools.

BEGINNING OF FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The first attempt to establish a free school system for the entire state was made by Hon. Joseph Duncan, in 1825, then state senator from Jackson County, who snbsequently became a congressman, and later governor of the state of Illinois. The act was passed in January, 1825, and provided that two dollars ont of every hundred received in the state treasnry should be appropriated and distributed to those who paid taxes or snbscriptions towards the support of schools. The aggregate revenues of the state at that time, however, were so small that the snm realized from the measnre amounted to less than $1,000 per annum. While nothing definite came of this act, and it was repealed in 1829, yet it was in the right direction, and no donbt had its infinence on later legislation. The appointment of a state snperintendent of pnblic instruction was agitated from abont the time Cass County was created, 1837, and was urged by edncational conventions and by the limited educational press, and even in the legislature, but there was no provision of law for it, and it was not until 1854 that an act was passed creating the office. The Hon. Ninian W. Edwards was appointed by Gov. Joel Matteson and held the office for two years.

The legislature of 1855 passed an act which was approved February 15, 1855, providing for a complete system of free schools for the entire state. The constitntion of 1848 was then in force, but although it said nothing in encouragement of schools, free or otherwise, yet it did not limit the powers of the legislatnre in matters of school legislation, and hence it was slow methods of evolntion that delayed the enactment of any measnre helpfnl in a general sense towards building up an efficient school system. The constitntion of 1870, as has been intimated, did not interfere with the prior school legislation, but made it mandatory npon the legislature to maintain what legislation we had, or enact better, in order that the state might have an efficient free school system. A great many amendments have been made to the school law of 1855, but the general system that law laid out yet prevails and nnder it Illinois has evolved as excellent a school system, and as practical educational institntions as are to be found in any of the states of the Union.

As was said in the beginning of this chapter, Cass County has the public free school system, only. It has no seminaries, universities or colleges. At one time there was a seminary, which was later changed in name at least to a college, but that is long since ont of existence. In 1857 the legislature passed an act approved Febrnary 16 of that year, incorporating the "Virginia Seminary of Providence Presbyterian Chnrch," with the following persons named as incorporators: James White, A. G. Angier, George Wilson, R. B. Conn, J. N. White, John Rodgers, H. R. Lewis, Samuel McClure, William Stephenson, A. Taylor, S. W. Neely, J. Van Eaton, and N. B. Beers. No seminary ever seems to have been bnilt, bought or conducted by this corporation so far as can be learned.

By an act of legislatnre approved June 14, 1852, the "Virginia Seminary of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church" was incorporated. This corporation pnrchased a tract of land in the southwest corner of section 3, and a small tract adjoining in section 10, township 17, range 10, west, in Cass County, and by 1854 had built a good sized edifice to be nsed as a seminary. The school was opened and conducted until the spring of 1857, when for some reason which is unknown and cannot be learned, an application was made to the legislatnre for a change of name, and by an act of that body approved June 1, 1857, the name was changed to the "Union College of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church," and by that name succeeded to all corporate rights and property of the former corporation. It is not known who the first instrnctors were. I. H. Miller had charge in 1860, and Rev. McDowell from about 1863 to 1865. The college did not prosper, and the church dignitaries who had originally founded it became discouraged, the building was becoming greatly in need of repair, and it was thought best by the incorporators and the Presbytery to dispose of the property. Upon investigation, however, it was found no anthority existed in the trustees to sell or dispose of their burden, and to relieve the situation, a new corporation was formed, and incorporated as an amendment to the two previous acts mentioned. The act was approved and in force March 8, 1869. The original name was assumed, the new incorporators being:

Thomas Wilson, Henry H. Hall, John Rodgers, Henry Freeman, Milton Berry, William Campbell, A. C. Crandall, J. B. Craft, Z. W. Gatton, and their successors. They were vested with all the rights and property of the former seminary and the Union College, and power to sell and convey the property was conferred. The school continued for another year, and then, it being very apparent that even under the new corporation it had not long to live, the Sangamon Presbytery of the Cumberland church, pursuant to the authority granted them in the last named act, concluded to sell and dispose of the property before it became absolutely useless. Thereupon it met upon September 2, 1870, and directed the trustees to sell the property, adopting the following obituary resolutions:

"Whereas, the Virginia Seminary of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church is in a dilapidated condition, unsuited to keep a school therein without extensive repairs, and whereas, there is no money in the board treasury with which to repair, and whereas, the seminary has ever failed to meet the wishes and expectations of its best friends, and whereas, three of the school districts including Virginia, have consolidated for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a graded school in the town, and whereas, the directors of the united districts have caused an election to be held which has resulted in authorizing them to borrow $5,000 to be spent in purchasing school property, and whereas, they have determined to commence building this fall in the event they cannot buy the seminary, in which case we could not compete with this school nor sell the property; therefore, resolved: That as Presbytery we instruct our board of trustees to sell the entire seminary property to the directors of Union District No. 1, town of Virginia, Cass County, Ill., for school purposes alone."

The price was fixed at $5,000, and the trustees were left to agree upon such terms as they thought best as to payments, interest on deferred payments, etc. Following this authority, the trustees sold the property to the trustees of schools of township 17, n., range 10, w., for the use of the inhabitants of the Union District. The deed bears date of May 17, 1871. The original building was built by George W. Weaver, a contractor and builder of Beardstown, and after the Union District took possession extensive repairs were made and the building served as a public school for many years. The seminary went by the name Union College for a long time, even after the name had been changed back to that under which it was first incorporated. With this one exception, however, as before stated, institutions of learning in Cass County have been the public free schools.

REVIEW OF EARLY SCHOOLS.

A review of the early schools of the county will be of interest. Outside of the towns and villages and even in some of them, it is difficult to obtain definite information, as to the establishment of schools in the various parts of the county before and about the time of the adoption of the free school system, but the following is fairly accurate, and will at least serve the purpose of enlightening the present and future generations of the difficulties under which the rudiments of an education were obtained by our forefathers.

Thomas S. Berry came from Virginia in 1829, a distance of over 900 miles, on horseback, carrying all he possessed in the way of worldly goods in saddle bags. He stayed with Benjamin Stribling on a farm about one and one-half miles west of the present site of Virginia, the first winter, and the next two winters he taught a subscription school in a cabin near the Stribling home. He seems to have been the first teacher in the central part of Cass County. William Holmes, afterwards the first representative in the legislature from Cass County, taught the first school held near Sugar Grove, now a part of Philadelphia Precinct, in 1831. The school was held in the cabin of Mr. Holmes, which he had built when he came into the county, and had abandoned for the new frame house he built further north. Mr. Holmes is said to have been an excellent teacher, but rather too kindhearted and lenient with the unruly. Keeling Berry taught a subscription, or what was sometimes termed a select school from November, 1839, to September, 1840, in a log house built on section 27, township 17, range 10.

EARLIEST IN THE FIELD.

Monroe Precinct seems to have been the earliest in the field with a school. James Davis had come to the neighborhood in 1826, and entered the west half of the southwest quarter of section 12, township 17, range 11, and being of a progressive nature and realizing that it was

necessary to facilitate legitimate progress by providing opportunities for the children to acquire some schooling, proposed to the neighbors, in 1829, that if they would render assistance, he would permit a schoolhouse to be built on his land, suggesting as a location a spot south of his house on the south side of the highway which ran westerly about where the present highway is along the George Davis farm, and that he would contribute money and labor as well in order to provide a place where the children might be taught at least their "a-b-abs." Within a month from the time this generous offer was made, an appreciative collection of settlers had a log schoolhouse up and provided with puncheon benches for the children to sit on, and a large 2-inch plank set up on four stout legs or pegs for the teacher's desk; and some greased paper pasted over the openings cut in certain of the logs, for windows. Behold the temple of learning was ready for use. Jesse Pierce was the first teacher, and had for some of his pupils the Clark children, David, Thomas and Patience; James A., Julia Ann, John and Thomas Davis; Emily Spencer, Jake Shoopman, James and Nelson Graves, George Savage, Logan, Samuel and Mary Wilson, and Isaiah and Sylvester Huffman. William Chapman was the next teacher and taught for one term, when he was followed by John Gelespie, who was an excellent teacher and remained several terms. The burning of the old schoolhouse terminated his connection with the district. The chimney of this schoolhouse was built like most of the chimneys of the residence cabins, that is with sticks laid up like the logs of a house, and daubed with mud. Inside the fireplace the daubing was thicker and was supposed to be burned hard like brick and impervious to the fire, but a portion had cracked and fallen out and one night the chimney got on fire and soon spread to the building and burned it to the ground. The people soon had another cabin up and supplied it with glass windows, much to the delight and pride of the children.

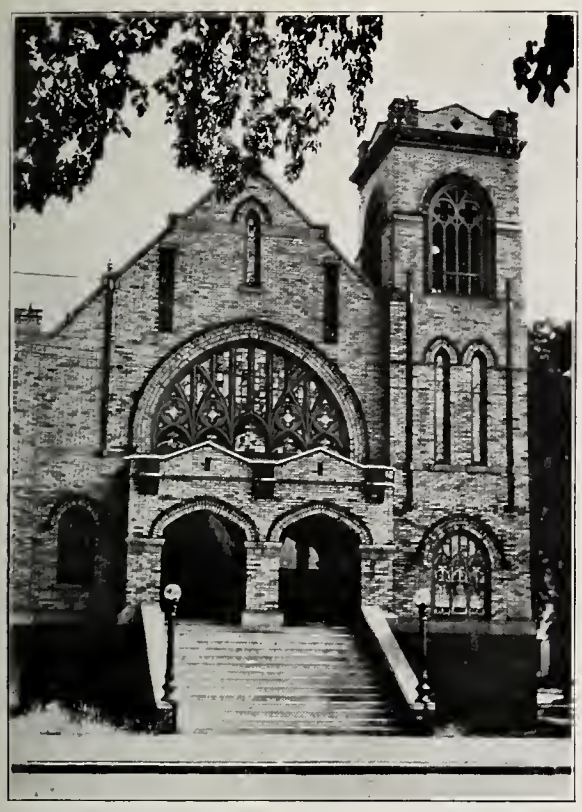
The Walnut Grove schoolhouse, on the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 25, township 17, range 10, was built in 1833, and this was known as the Princeton school for a number of years, as the children from that hamlet attended there before a building could be found or erected in Princeton for school purposes. It cannot be learned who taught the first school, but one of the early teachers was Joel C. Borinson, who taught during 1835 and 1836, and perhaps earlier. The schoolhouse was of logs and served well as a school building until 1845, when a storm in the nature of a cyclone, in June, 1845, scattered its logs through the timber.

In 1842 Alexander Huffman taught a private school in his own house, in Monroe Precinct.

In 1830 a rude log schoolhouse was built on section 35, township 19, range 9, on the Petersburg and Beardstown road, in what is now Richmond Precinct. It was about where the Dick schoolhouse of the present is located. An Englishman named James L. Grant, taught the first school. Among his pupils were C. J. Wilson, Pollie Dick, John Hash, James and Levi Dick, and Henry Taylor. It is said that Mr. Grant was an excellent teacher. At Puncheon Grove, southeast of Mr. Grant's school, the Baptists erected a church building in 1842, which was used as a schoolhouse during the week days.

In Hickory Precinct, which was then named Bowen, the first subscription school was taught by B. F. Nelson in the fall of 1834, in a vacated log cabin, standing near the site of the Jacob Houk residence, on the Sangamon Bottom road. Mr. Nelson is described as a person prepossessing in appearance, scholarly, and gentlemanly in his manners, but entirely without energy and industry. The cabin caught fire and burned down from his carelessness, so it was thought, and this ended the school for that season and for several others, as no more school was held in that neighborhood until 1836, when William Cole built a small cabin for the sole purpose of a schoolhouse, and tendered it to any person competent to teach. Carlton Logan accepted the challenge and subscriptions and taught during the winter of 1836. In 1840 a log schoolhouse was built on the present site of the Hickory schoolhouse, which served the purpose of a schoolhouse for seventeen years. A new frame building was erected in 1857, and for five years the distinguished L. U. Revis wielded the birch, or more properly speaking, the split clapboard, as no birch grew in that neighborhood.

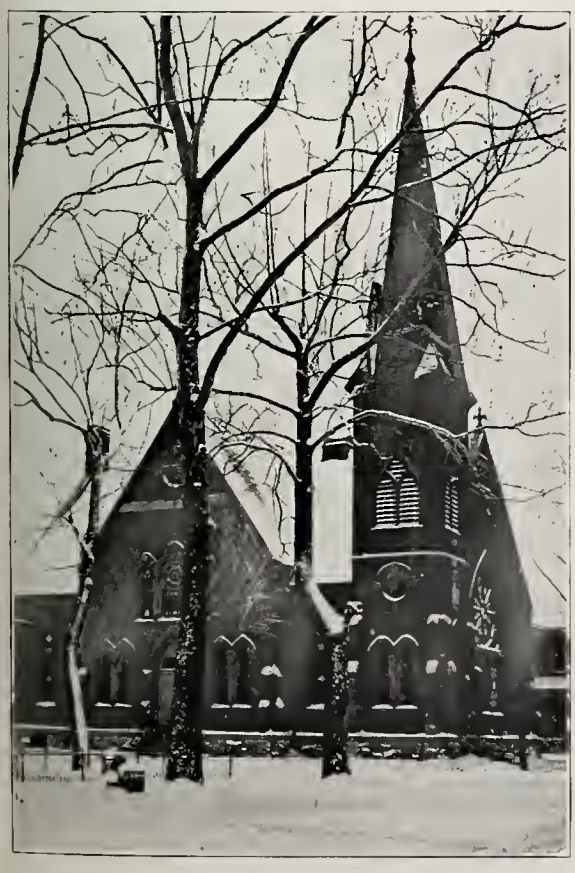
In 1839 a schoolhouse was built on the present site of Bluff Springs, but its exact locality cannot be ascertained, but it is believed to have been located where the store building of John Clark was burned a few years ago, at the crossing of the two public highways. Henry Babb was the first teacher, and Mary Ann Lindsley the



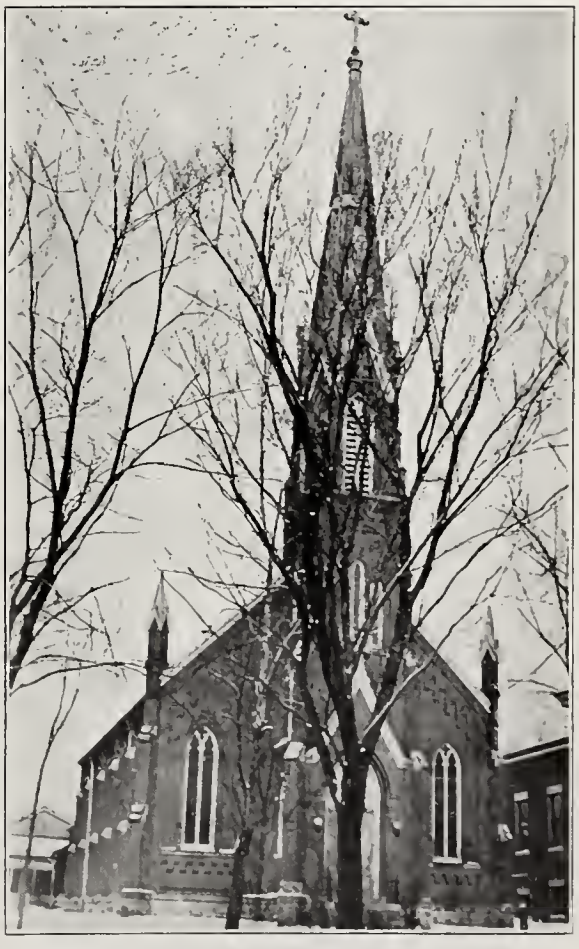
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
BEARDSTOWN



SIXTH STREET LUTHERAN CHURCH,
BEARDSTOWN



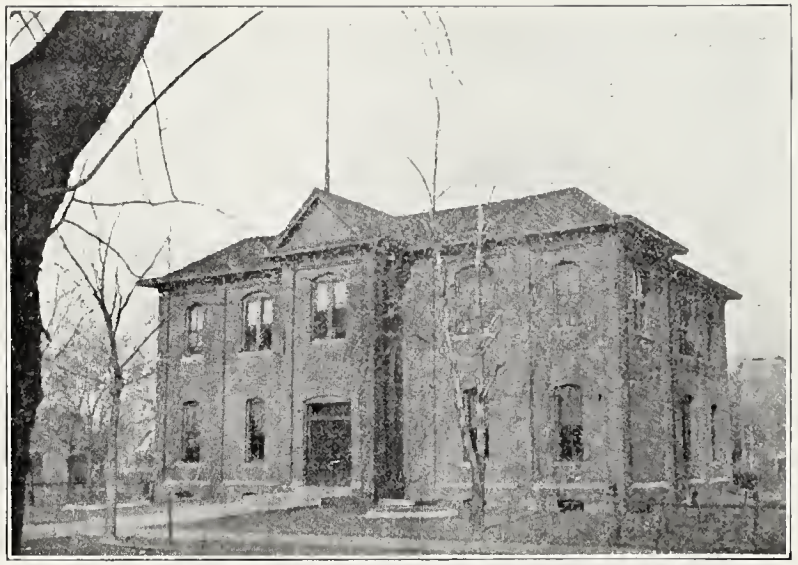
FOURTH STREET LUTHERAN CHURCH,
BEARDSTOWN



ST. ALEXIUS ROMAN CATHOLIC
CHURCH, BEARDSTOWN



NEW BEARD SCHOOL, BEARDSTOWN, BUILT IN 1914



WASHINGTON SCHOOL, BEARDSTOWN



CENTRAL SCHOOL, BEARDSTOWN



LINCOLN BUILDING
Home of the High School, Beardstown

second. Miss Lindsley was the wife of John L. Buckley, to whom she was married June 2, 1844. The third teacher was Mr. Humingston, whose Christian name is not known. In 1860, Bluff Springs built a substantial frame school building about half a mile south of the present village, and has since added another room, and now has as excellent a country school as may be found in the county.

Oregon Precinct secured a schoolhouse at what is now known as Quebec as early as 1840, through the efforts of James Garner, Elijah Carver and James Mathews. Its first teachers were William Pallet and Miss Dorothy Major. The next school built in Oregon was at the point near the center of the precinct which had borne the name Oregon from about the time of the organization of a church society in the neighborhood. In 1855 a congregation of Methodists was established and a schoolhouse built for the common purpose of a school and meeting house for the church. Until about this time all the schools mentioned heretofore had been conducted on the subscription plan. There was no such thing as a public tax for the maintenance of schools. Nearly everyone in a neighborhood who had children to send to school paid something, if they did not have money they paid in produce of some kind, and almost any kind was regarded as legal tender in those pinching days. A college education was not necessary as a qualification for a teacher in pioneer days. A knowledge of "readin', 'ritin' and 'rethmetic," and in the latter branch of those mysterious arts, to be able to cipher to the double rule of three was deemed sufficient for all practical purposes. Many of the early teachers, however, did know much more than these rudimentary branches, but did not deem it wise or safe to reveal their more advanced learning. Had a teacher been discovered demonstrating a problem in Euclid he would have been regarded as a necromancer, and looked upon with grave suspicion.

In villages and cities, the beginning of localities which have since developed into schools, was much the same as in the districts which have remained rural. In the Panther Creek settlement, which ultimately became the thriving village of Chandlerville, the first school was conducted by Mrs. Henry Ingalls, who opened and taught the school in her private residence, south of the Dr. Chandler home. After several terms she discontinued the work and was succeeded by Mrs. Emily Chandler Allen, a sister of Dr. Chandler, who permitted her the use of his home for school purposes. The school was conducted for a year. John Rickard taught a school at his residence on the farm south of the settlement, known for many years as the Hash farm.

In 1838, Dr. Chandler becoming tired of having his private residence used as a schoolroom, built a small frame house toward the east, and near the present business part of the village, where Mrs. Ingalls resumed teaching, and continued until the spring of 1841, at which time a church society had been organized and a church building erected and the small schoolhouse becoming crowded, the church building was tendered for use as a schoolroom, and from the beginning of the winter term of that year on there was a regular school, taught in turn by Miss Dunham, Miss Pease, and Miss Hosford. Others who taught subsequently were: David Craig, Peter Rickard, Emily Chandler and Helen Cotton. These schools were all subscription, and this kind of school prevailed until 1856, when the new free school law began to be put into action. That year a frame building was erected on lot 60 of the original town, which is the site of the present school grounds, and that answered for a school building until 1868, when a portion of the first brick school was erected. In 1878 the brick building was completed then containing five rooms. The attendance however increased to such an extent that in 1906 a new, substantial brick building with many modern conveniences was built, and Chandlerville now has a first class school in its limits, and a number of country schools in the precinct.

Arenzville Precinct had the same experience with the early schools as did the other parts of the county. A church building was erected in 1839, within the present town limits on ground donated by the proprietor of the town, Francis A. Arenz, which was used during week days as a school. About 1858 a school building was erected on the south half of block 4 of the original town, and used as a school until 1877, when lot 3 of the same block was purchased and a building was erected. It served the village until 1892, when grounds and buildings were sold to the village trustees, and are now used as town hall and calaboose. In June, 1891, the district bought a part of out lot 9 and commenced at once to erect a new school building. It was completed in 1892 and was occupied until November 11, 1908, when it was burned at 2:30 p. m. and com-

pletely consumed. Prompt action was taken by the school board and in 1910 a splendid new up-to-date building was ready for use, and has furnished the village and school district with every accommodation deemed necessary for school purposes.

Ashland did not come into existence as a village or precinct until the free school system was in operation, yet it had some difficulty in getting schools inaugurated. In 1859 a school was organized and an old abandoned building previously used as a grocery store was fitted up as well as possible, and there George Coffin taught the first school within the village limits. The only school outside the village prior to that date was one known as the Beggs school. For three years school was conducted in the old grocery building when the present site was purchased, in block 97 of the original town, and a frame building erected which served until 1866. In that year a new brick building of two rooms was erected, but the next year it was badly damaged by a storm. It was repaired and lasted until 1881, when the present building was erected under the supervision of William Douglas, William Jones and Silas Hexter. Ashland schools have a well developed progressive system of grade and high schools.

BEARDSTOWN SCHOOLS.

Beardstown, the village, the town, the city, has been most active, energetic and successful in establishing and maintaining a public school system, that now stands in the very foremost rank of city public free schools. The founder of the town, Thomas Beard, and his most intimate friend and associate, Francis A. Arenz, were both graduates of colleges, and appreciated highly the advantages of an education. Although these men, as well as many other enterprising early settlers of Beardstown, lent their aid in every way possible under the environments and primitive conditions, Beardstown had many of the experiences that other parts of the county had in laying a foundation for the education of the children. The history of the Beardstown schools is presented in a brief sketch entitled "Educational Progress in Beardstown," by Hon. John Listman, clerk of the city court of Beardstown, and secretary of the school board for a number of years.

"Early education in Beardstown was carried on under very discouraging conditions. There were no free schools, and all the schooling the children received was from subscription schools common in those days. Such schools were maintained by the heads of families, by paying so much per month for each child. These schools were taught by parties who had sufficient learning to give instructions, including the 'birch' and 'hickory,' but had no special preparation for teaching. These schools were hard on the children of the poor. If a man could not pay the fee he could not send his children. These schools were held in shops, warehouses, and other buildings very poorly equipped for school purposes. The first school taught in Beardstown was a subscription school kept in an unused building facing on State street, between First and Second streets. In the year 1833, Thomas Beard, the founder of the city, erected a building on Sixth street, immediately east of State street, which he donated to the public for educational purposes; and later the building was occupied by Dr. Hoffman as an office and chemical laboratory. During the forties, an old warehouse, situated on the corner of LaFayette and Second streets, was used as a schoolhouse for several years. Between the years 1830 and 1853, schools were held in different buildings; and parochial schools were also maintained during that time by various churches. In 1852, Beardstown began the erection of a spacious brick school building, known as the Brick School, on block 36, March and Beards' addition, where now stands the Central building. This building was completed in 1853, and was the first free school in the city. It served the people until 1884, when the present Central building was erected at a cost of over $26,000. In 1887, two rooms were erected in the East ward, and two rooms in the West ward. In 1889, two more rooms were added to the West ward building, and in 1890, two more rooms were added to the East ward school, now called the Washington school. In 1893, the Second and Fourth ward buildings were erected. In 1908, the Second ward building was removed and the Lincoln building was erected on the same lot; and was opened in the spring of 1909, and is now the home of the high school, which is growing rapidly. Two more rooms have been added since to the Washington school, making it a six-room building.

"But the problem of taking care of the children of the west side of the city has been for some time, so to speak, the child of sorrow, to the board of education, and was not easy of solu-

tion. The Fourth ward building had for a time been considered unsafe, and yet could not be dispensed with unless other provision could be made to house the children residing within the bounds of the west side district of the city. But the solution came sooner than anyone expected or looked for. In the spring of 1913, during the extreme high water, it became evident that the Fourth ward building was unsafe, and had to be condemned and abandoned. It thus became imperative for the board of education to take some decisive action in reference to making provision for the children residing within the West ward district, and to erect a building on some site centrally located within the district and easily accessible to all children residing within its bounds. It so happened that this site became available, a bond issue of $25,000 was voted, and after due deliberation the board proceeded 'to erect a school building of eight rooms, and which should be artistic in its architectural aspects; to be equipped with all modern devices, and to make it in all respects as nearly as possible an ideal school building which would be a credit to our city, and in which we all could feel and take pardonable pride,' the board being prompted by the principle that the best is only good enough for our children. The building known as the Beard school, situated on the site of the old city cemetery, was completed and formally dedicated October 30, 1914. The total value of our school property today, including this building, is about $170,000. The enrollment in our schools last year was 1,421 pupils."

Thus it appears the public schools of Beardstown have made a most creditable progress. About thirty years ago when the idea was first attracting the attention of school boards and teachers, manual training was introduced in the Beardstown schools, but did not remain long enough to give it a fair test as to its utility, but five years ago it was reinstated and seems to be gaining in favor. A new feature in school work is the organization of Parent-Teachers' Associations. They have such an association now in Beardstown, and it is proving of very great helpfulness to the discipline of schools. Truancy of pupils in Beardstown has been reduced to the minimum. A circumstance connected with the Beardstown schools especially worthy of note is the fact that one person was for so many years employed as a teacher. The Illustrated Directory of Cass County Schools, published by A. E. Hinners, then county superintendent of schools, 1902, contains a portrait of Mrs. J. G. Dowler, and the editor has this to say:

"We take pleasure in presenting the picture of Mrs. J. G. Dowler, who is a pioneer school teacher of this county and perhaps of the state. Mrs. Dowler has taught for forty-four consecutive years in the Beardstown schools. A great many of Beardstown's prominent citizens were at one time pupils of hers. In addition to her many years of experience, Mrs. Dowler keeps abreast with the times and is well posted on the modern methods employed in teaching. We believe that Mrs. Dowler's record as a teacher can hardly be duplicated." Mrs. Dowler continued with the schools as a teacher until 1907, making in all forty-nine years' service in the public schools of her native city.

The schools of Beardstown and the two rural schools in the district are under the supervision of Prof. H. G. Russel, superintendent, while the school board of education has a system of committees by which the general management is attended to. These committees are: Buildings and Grounds, E. E. Nicholson, chairman, Dr. C. E. Soule and John Listman; Rules, Forms and Complaints, A. S. Coil, chairman, Charles F. Kenedy and John T. Garm; Teachers and Salaries, John Listman, chairman, and Dr. C. E. Soule; Auditing and Finance, Dr. C. E. Soule, chairman, John T. Garm and E. E. Nicholson; Supplies and Expenditures, John T. Garm, chairman, John Listman and E. E. Nicholson; Text Books and Library, C. F. Kenedy, chairman, A. S. Coil and Dr. C. E. Soule; and Printing, Dr. J. T. Schweer and John Listman. Dr. J. T. Schweer is president of the board.

SCHOOLS IN THE CITY AND PRECINCT OF VIRGINIA.

School experience at Virginia does not differ materially from that of other points in the county. The earliest schools and their teachers outside of the city have been mentioned. When the town of Virginia was platted a few lots were designated as school lots. One of these was north of the present site of the new Methodist church, and it is said on that lot as early as 1837 a cabin was built and used for school purposes. It is doubtful about the building being a cabin, but there was a school kept in a building there and Miss Ann Jordan was the first teacher. Her successor was a Miss Williamson. Above the room used as the Harris Chair factory, on the west side of the public square, there

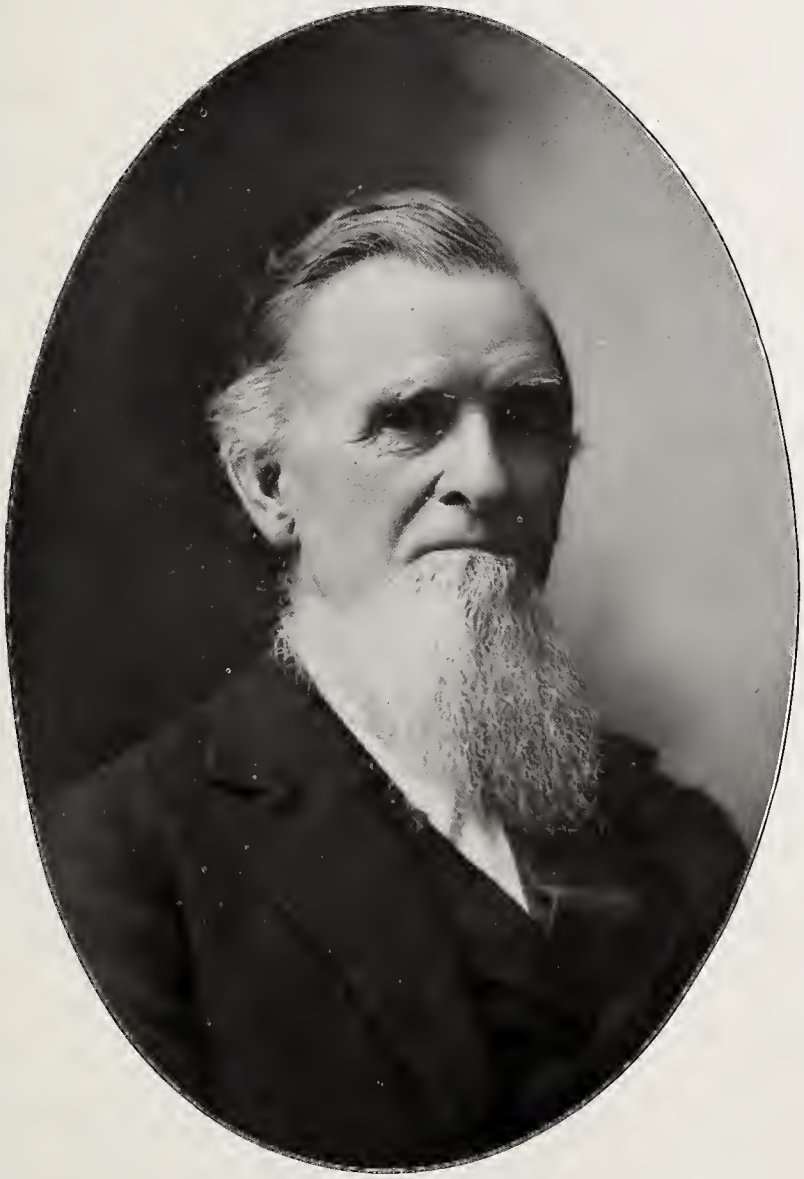
was a vacant space, a sort of attic, but it was fitted up and used as a school room for girls and small children. Another school was kept in the upper story or loft of the Protestant Methodist church building, on one of the lots designated on the plat as a church lot, and being lot No. 64 of the original town. Still auother school was held in the Dwelle property on South Front street, which was a private residence. All the schools were subscription or select oues. Among the early teachers other than those mentioned were: Miss Mary Ann Lindsley, later Mrs. John Buckley, W. H. H. Carpenter, who subsequently became county clerk, a Mr. Morgan, David Blair and others whose names are forgotten, all of their pupils having passed away loug ago.

In 1845, the county seat having been removed to Beardstown from Virginia, the courthouse, which had been erected in 1838, became vacant, and the county commissioners for the advancement of education, entered an order at the July term of the Commissioners' Court on July 14, 1845, directing the clerk of the board to make a lease of the public square and the buildings thereon, being the house erected for a courthouse, to the trustees of towuship 17, range 10, for a term of ten years, for a consideration of one dollar, the directors of District No. 1 of said township to have control of the property with authority to make necessary repairs and modifications of the building to fit it for use as a schoolhouse. The lease was executed and the building fitted up and used as a schoolhouse until 1851, wheu, at the December term of that court, on December 3, the commissioners, pursuant to a petition from the inhabitants of Virginia, and the school district, finding it was the wish of the people of the county, donated the said property to the trustees of township 17, range 10, for District No. 1 of said township, for school purposes, with provision that if the property or any part thereof be used for any purpose other than for schools, it should revert to the county. The property was accepted and used until 1867, when the building was remodeled. From then on it was used as a school, being the only school building in the city until the purchase of the seminary property as before described. After the purchase of the seminary building, the old building was used for a primary building and continued as such until May 5, 1911, wheu it caught fire and the upper parts were so badly damaged that it was remodeled as a one-story building and is still in use for the primary department. Some of the early teachers were: John A. Loomis, Henry Phillips, now Judge Phillips of Beardstown, Miss Melvina Blair, and later in the sixties, J. N. Gridley, R. H. Beggs, Miss Mary Hansford and Miss Sallie Ross.

The old seminary building and spacious grounds were coutracted for in 1870, but the deed was not made until May 17, 1871. In this old building the high school of Virginia was iuaugurated in 1873, with a three-year course. The first class to graduate was that of 1876, under Prof. Johnson, now a lawyer of California, and consisted of four members only, namely: Miss Flora B. Bergstresser, a daughter of a leading merchant of Virginia at that time; J. C. Cherryholmes, a sou of Abraham Cherryholmes, au early settler of Virginia; Miss Nellie Snyder, a daughter of Dr. J. F. Snyder of Virginia; and Miss Sallie Ruth Beadles, uow the wife of Judge Charles Æ. Martin.

LARGE LOSSES BY FIRE.

In 1892 the school board and the citizens generally believed the city should have a new and more moderu building for the increasiug school population. They immediately set to work. The old seminary building was torn down to make room for the new building, and on September 18, 1893, the new school buildiug, which had cost $20,000, and was a model structure, with all modern improvements and conveniences, was opened. Professor T. W. B. Everhardt was the superintendent of the city schools when the new building was dedicated. With this splendid new building and the old one in excellent repair and conveniently remodeled on the interior, Virginia people felt they were well provided with school buildings of which they were justly proud, and which would serve them for generations to come. Alas for human hopes and calculations. In a few years both buildings were burned. The new high school building caught fire on the night of January 11, 1912, aud was almost consumed by the flames before anyone was aware of the fire. It was a bitter cold night, the temperature at zero, and nothing could be done to save the building. All the school books, the records aud the splendid library were at the mercy of the flames, and became a total loss. The year 1911 and the first few days in 1912 were disastrous times for the schools of Virginia. First there was the burning of the primary building; then the cyclone of November 11, 1911, which damaged



T. S. Crum

the high school building very badly, and then the culmination of the disastrous fire of January 11, 1912.

FINE MODERN STRUCTURE.

The Virginia people, having the characteristics of the American people everywhere, did not lose courage but provided for continuing the schools in the vacant rooms wherever a class could be located. The directors then proceeded to arrange for rebuilding. A bond issue of $20,000 was voted by the people of the district, which, together with the insurance money received for the burned building, provided means for erecting a new building and it was dedicated April 4, 1913. This building is of the most modern design, plain in exterior appearance, but equipped on the interior in a manner the experience of teachers and architects has demonstrated is best suited for school purposes. It cost about $33,000, and is built upon the same ground as the previous building. These grounds comprise about nine acres, and are well shaded with trees and the property is one of the best in the county. Some objections were made by the citizens of the district to the location on account of the fact that it is so far from the center of population, it being at the extreme southwest corner of the city, but the grounds being so exceptionally suited for a school campus, and no steps taken to secure another location, the subject was dropped. The school has a department of manual training which contains some features of domestic science. Prof. A. M. Santee is at present the superintendent of the city schools. These schools are upon the accredited list and are as progressive as any schools of the county.

There are no high schools outside of the villages and cities; the legislature, however, by an act passed and approved June 26, 1913, provided for attendance upon high schools by pupils from districts where no high school is maintained, and the work of the school does not go above the eighth grade. The parent may select the high school for his children to which he wishes to send them, but this selection must have the approval of the directors of the district in which the pupil resides, and tuition is to be paid by such district.

APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS.

There are sixty-two rural districts in the county, two of them, the Lynn school in township 19, range 8, and the Bluff Springs school. Each has two rooms and employs two teachers; therefore there are sixty-four rural teachers annually employed in the county. In the villages and cities the number of teachers are as follows: Arenzville has four teachers, including the principal. Ashland has nine teachers, including the principal, and has, in addition, a teacher who superintends the musical department. Chandlerville has a principal and five teachers. Beardstown has a superintendent besides thirty-four teachers, eight assigned to the high school and twenty-six to the grades. Virginia has a superintendent, four teachers in the high school, and eight in the grades, besides a director of the musical department. Teachers' institutes are held regularly each year during the vacation months, and teachers' meetings are held frequently during school terms.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS.

Prior to the amendment to the school law, approved February 16, 1865, relative to the election of a county superintendent for each county, an officer called a school commissioner was elected in each county, whose duties and prerogatives were very similar to that of the county superintendent in that act provided for. The persons holding the offices mentioned in this county since its organization have been as follows: School commissioners—Richard S. Thomas, John B. Shaw, Frank Holenger, and James K. Vandemark. The county superintendents of schools have been as follows: James K. Vandemark, the late Dr. Harvey Tate, of Virginia; John Gore, Allen J. Hill, who served from 1877 to 1882; Andrew L. Anderson, 1882-1886; Charles A. Schaeffer two terms to 1894; John G. Pearn, 1894-1898; Albert E. Hinnes, 1898-1906; Henry Jacobs, 1906-1914; and Walter E. Buck, who was elected in 1914 for a term of four years without any opposition on any ticket.

CHAPTER XVII.

CHURCHES.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION AND RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES—CHARACTER OF RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT IN EARLY TIMES—FIRST SERVICES HELD IN CABINS OF PI-

ONEERS—GROVES UTILIZED AS SUMMER CHURCHES —CAMP MEETINGS ENJOYED—FIRST PREACHERS IN CASS COUNTY—REV. REDDICK HORN ACTIVE VERY EARLY—VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS ESTABLISHED—PROTESTANT METHODIST—METHODIST EPISCOPAL — REV. PETER CARTWRIGHT — FIRST RESIDENT PREACHER — GERMAN EVANGELICAL — CONGREGATIONAL — BAPTIST — LUTHERAN — CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN—ROMAN CATHOLIC—CHRISTIAN OR DISCIPLES—ABANDONED CHURCHES—WITCHCRAFT IN CASS COUNTY—A DEBT OF GRATITUDE OWED TO THE EARLY PREACHERS.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

The early settlers of Cass County came from so many different parts of the United States and of European countries, that it was but natural that there should be equally as great a variety of religious opinions and views. When Eli Cox came into the eastern part of the county, and when Thomas Beard located at the Mound village of the Indians on the Illinois River, there was no organized religious society anywhere north of Jacksonville, nor was it certain that there was any such society even at Jacksonville, for that place was then but the merest straggling village, and was not even laid out as a town until several years later. It is true that the French priests had passed up and down the Illinois River for a number of years before that period, and had established missions among the Indians, but even these missions had been abandoned and the natives had relapsed into a renewed state of barbarism not at all in keeping with the teachings of the kindly disposed priests. So the religion of Cass County, prior to 1835, may be said to have been that of the faith of each contingent of emigrants, which they had imbibed from their ancestors, and brought with them over the long, rough roads, through the forests and unbroken prairies, or across the wide sea from England, Ireland, Germany and other countries which all sent many excellent men and women to blaze the trail of civilization. Whatever degree, however, or variety of religion each community or individual had, it was mostly considered orthodox, and little attention was paid to the distinctions between denominations. There were no church buildings for several years after the white settlers began to arrive. As a matter of course people who had any religious sentiment at all, wanted their children educated to some degree at least, and so schoolhouses were erected as the first public buildings, and these, such as they were, were thrown open by the people for the purpose of holding religious services in them. The dwellings of the settlers were also opened to the itinerant preachers whenever they came along, and any and all people were welcome at the meetings. In the summers the meetings were often held out of doors, under the magnificent forest trees, and as the country increased in population, and preachers became more numerous, regular meetings, which were called camp meetings, were held in the groves and in the timber. People would come from points many miles distant to attend these camp meetings, and a great religious revival would ensue. Perhaps the most noted camp meeting grounds were those near the farm of William Holmes, east and north of the Cunningham tan-yard, about six miles in an easterly direction from Virginia. As time worked changes for the betterment of conditions, the people in the settlements built houses of worship, all sects usually uniting for this purpose. The first church buildings were of logs, covered with clapboards, but after the sawmills began to make their appearance, and the trees were converted into excellent lumber, very substantial structures were erected. Most of these old buildings have disappeared, and the congregations that once so loyally supported the preaching services, have long years slept in the little graveyards that were to be found in close proximity to the church.

FIRST PREACHERS.

The first itinerant preachers in Cass County, and some of the first to permanently locate here, were Protestant Methodists, although the Methodist Episcopals, the Baptists, Presbyterians and Cumberland Presbyterians, and some of the Christians or Disciples, came at a very early day. The source of information concerning early preachers, and of the early churches and religious organizations, is so meagre, and of such traditional character that little that could be regarded as authentic, can be said. Rev. Reddick Horn was certainly in the county in a very early day, and taking an active part in stirring up the sinners, and was chaplain on the staff of Governor Reynolds in the Black Hawk campaign, when the soldiers rendezvoused at Beardstown. It is said he was very erratic and disputatious, and the records show that he was sued several times in the first few terms of the Cass

County court, and he in turn sued a number of delinquents. He served one term as circuit clerk for the county. The records also reveal the fact that he engaged in business transactions, and bought and sold real estate, purchasing some of the first town lots sold at Beardstown and Virginia; took an interest in politics; was an uncompromising Whig, and withal, preached wherever and whenever he had an opportunity. In 1832 he preached in the schoolhouse at Beardstown, erected by Francis A. Arenz and Thomas Beard, and also in the courthouse at Virginia, built by Dr. Hall in 1838, under contract with the county. On one occasion, Judge Dummer, at Beardstown, announced that on the next Sabbath, the president of the Protestant Methodist church would preach. A large congregation gathered, among them being N. B. Thompson, then circuit clerk, a man of great dignity, always scrupulously dressed in the latest fashion. He invariably wore a high silk hat, commonly called a "plug." When the hour for preaching arrived, to the disappointment of those assembled to hear the stranger, in walked Reddick Horn. Mr. Thompson was a Democrat, and disliked the Whigs cordially, and Mr. Horn especially. While the preacher was a good, Christian gentleman, it was said he "would walk a long distance to hate a Democrat." In order to make his dislike and disgust more noticeable, Mr. Thompson waited until Mr. Horn arose to read the scriptures, when, placing his "plug" hat on his head, he walked down the aisle and out the door. The reverend gentleman, however, met the emergency with the ready wit of the early backwoods preacher, and while the distinguised Mr. Thompson was nearing the door, Mr. Horn quoted in a loud, distinct voice: "The wicked flee when no man pursueth," and then expounded the doctrines of the scriptures as he understood them, for an hour or more, without any further notice of the incident.

PROTESTANT METHODIST CHURCHES.

The Protestant Methodists built the first church at Virginia. It was located on one of the lots designated on Dr. Hall's plat of the place, as a church lot, and stood on the present site of the Goodell-Skiles lumber yards. Another early comer of that denomination was the Rev. William H. Collins, who was born in Sligo, Ireland, November 21, 1795. His parents emigrated from Ireland in 1796, and took a goat with them on board the vessel so that little William might be sure of having milk. The family lived in Maryland for a time after their arrival in this country, but later went to the state of Virginia, and from there to Ohio, where William married Miss Rebecca Brinkerhoff, April 18, 1825. He left working as a saddler to become a Protestant Methodist minister, and after preaching in various places in Ohio, came to Illinois about 1834, evidence of this being found in an advertisement in the Beardstown Chronicle, published by Francis A. Arenz in that year. It has been frequently suggested that the expression "preaching at early candlelight" was the invention of some irreverent vaudeville stage performer, but not so. Here is the expression in the following advertisement or announcement:

"The Reverend Wm. H. Collins from Ohio, of the Methodist Protestant Church, will preach in Jacksonville, on Thursday night, the 20th inst. at early candle lighting, and on Friday night at New Lexington, and on Saturday and Sunday 22 & 23, at Wm. Babbs, and on Thursday 27th at Beardstown in the new schoolhouse." The date of the paper is March 15, 1834. Mr. Collins was a fearless preacher, and a man personally of the highest integrity. Although not possessing much means, he was frugal and saving, and acquired a comfortable home for his family according to the standards of those times. During his residence at Beardstown, he owned his own house, and when he went to Virginia, he built a residence on the east side of Main street, now adjoining the livery barn property, a half a block south from the public square at Virginia. The house is yet standing, and in fair condition, being still used as a residence.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

The Methodist Episcopal church, established at Beardstown about 1836, had sent representatives to preach much earlier. A church building was erected in 1848, at the corner of Fifth and State streets, and an addition was made to it in 1874. The old buildings were torn away in 1889, and a splendid, commodious, up-to-date church erected, with Sunday school rooms, parlors and all modern conveniences. It also has a fine pipe organ. The church has a large membership, a well organized Sunday school that is attended by the older members as well as the children. It has never been without a pastor since its organization.

REV. PETER CARTWRIGHT.

On October 12, 1853, the Illinois Conference was held at Beardstown, the Rev. Bishop Scott presiding. At that conference, the Old Quincy district, which included Beardstown and Virginia stations, was changed, and the Pleasant Plains district formed. Rev. Peter Cartwright was appointed its presiding elder. This new district was composed of the following appointments: Beardstown station, Meredosia circuit, Havana, Jacksonville circuit, Sangamon, Virginia and Island Grove. Elder Cartwright had been a presiding elder of several districts prior to his appointment to the Pleasant Plains district, in both Kentucky and Illinois. It may be interesting to the present elders, or superintendents as they are now called, to hear what Elder Cartwright said of the early districts. Writing of them some years later, and referring to the Old Quincy district, he said:

"In 1851, my four years having expired on the Springfield district, I was appointed to the Quincy district, where I had traveled fifteen years before; then my district extended from the mouth of the Illinois River to Galena, and, indeed, as far north as was inhabited by the whites; and yet further still, into the Indian country, where I superintended the mission among the Pottawatomies. My district was then between four and five hundred miles from north to south, and I suppose I would average one hundred miles from east to west. I thought then the district was a small one, for when I was first appointed to a district in the Illinois Conference in the fall of 1826, my district commenced at the mouth of the Ohio River, and extended north hundreds of miles, and was not limited by the white settlements, but extended among the great unbroken tribes of uncivilized and unchristianized Indians." Most of the presiding elders, and nearly all the itinerent preachers of every denomination of that early day, had the same experience. They traveled their circuits, whether large or small, on horseback, through pathless timber, with a broken road only now and then; through the wide stretches of prairie, following a narrow path where the tall grass waved above them and their horses; over streams that were not bridged, oftentimes crossing on fallen trees, leading the faithful horses through the water beside them. Sometimes the horses would swim the deeper streams, carrying their riders over in safety. These preachers slept out of doors, with their saddles for pillows, and the saddle blankets for covering. They found no well-heated, well-lighted, comfortable church buildings in which to preach at the end of their journey, but more frequently delivered their religious message in some settler's cabin; and later in the log schoolhouses that began to multiply as the country increased in population.

Rev. Peter Cartwright was a unique figure in those early days, and gained great fame and notoriety throughout Illinois, and, indeed, in the whole jurisdiction of the Methodist church, as an eccentric backwoods preacher of great personal power and force of character. He, too, engaged in politics and was elected to the Illinois General Assembly, but when he came to try for a place in the national Congress against Abraham Lincoln, he was unsuccessful, although many Whigs who otherwise would have voted for Mr. Lincoln, could not resist the opportunity to vote for their long-time friend and spiritual adviser. Peter Cartwright was born September 1, 1785, in Amherst County, on the James River, Va. His father was an American soldier in the Revolutionary war. In 1790, the elder Cartwright moved to Kentucky with his family, and there Peter Cartwright was sent to school where he learned to read and write, and cipher a little. When about sixteen years of age, he was converted to religion, and soon began to ride a circuit as an itinerant preacher of the Methodist Episcopal church. He remained in Kentucky preaching and filling the office of presiding elder until 1823, when slavery, which surrounded him on all sides, became so obnoxious to him, he decided to emigrate to Illinois, hoping not only to get away from undesirable conditions, but also to better the prospects of his growing family. Accordingly, in 1823, with two companions, he set out on horseback for the beautiful land of the Illini. They crossed the Ohio River into Indiana; went up the east side of the Wabash River towards Vincennes, and crossed into Illinois; followed the valley of the Wabash up to the grand prairie and across that to Fort Clark on Lake Peoria, where they crossed the Illinois River, and soon emerged from the bluff country into the military tract. Making an investigation of the prairies and rolling uplands of that part of Illinois, they made their way south and back again to the Illinois River to the Mound village, which, at that time, says Mr. Cartwright writing of the journey years later, comprised



Sarah A. Brown

but one white family and one cabin, beside Indian tepees. From this place they traveled up the Sangamon River valley, then across in a southerly direction until they reached Richland Creek, in Sangamon County. Finding a tract of land with a double log cabin in fair condition, which suited him pretty well, Mr. Cartwright purchased it, and arranged to have it looked after until his return. Following a short stay, the little party started back for Kentucky, passing through the squalid little muddy village of Springfield. In the fall of 1824, Mr. Cartwright returned to Illinois with his family, and settled on the land he had purchased, and which he retained as his home the remainder of his busy, active life. The farm home of Rev. Cartwright was near to and a little north of Pleasant Plains, in Sangamon County, and there the most famous itinerant preacher of Illinois died, September 25, 1872.

FIRST RESIDENT PREACHER.

Rev. Levi Springer was another early itinerant preacher in central Illinois, and was really the first resident minister of the Methodist Episcopal church in Cass County. Levi Springer was born near Springfield, Ky., January 22, 1797. He came to Cass County in 1826, and July 11, 1827, he purchased of the Rev. Reddick Horn, a part of section 12, township 17, range 10, which Mr. Horn had entered from the government in 1826. In 1830, Mr. Springer entered eighty acres of land in the same section, and in 1835, 120 acres more, the balance of the section having been entered by Archibald Job, and Rev. Horn. On his land Mr. Springer built a cabin, a little north of the state road, which then ran near his premises on its way from Springfield to Beardstown. There was then no town of Virginia. A few years later the cabin burned, and Mr. Springer built a new frame house a little further to the west. It was built of lumber sawed from logs cut in the woods nearby, and most of the lumber, including the weather boarding, is of walnut. The house still stands in excellent condition, and is occupied as a residence by the only child of Rev. Springer, John S. Springer, who operates the old home farm. Mr. Springer had a large circuit over which to ride to his appointments and he officiated at the funeral of many early settlers at quite a distance from his home. He preached the funeral sermon of Dr. Ephraim Rew (the first physician of Beardstown and of the west end of the county) near Bluff Springs, May 24, 1842. His first wife, Elizabeth Short, died February 19, 1851. He afterwards married Elizabeth Freeman, a daughter of Silas Freeman, an early settler in the vicinity of Virginia. Some time prior to his death, Mr. Springer left the ministry, and devoted his attention to farming. When he died, November 13, 1871, he left an excellent farm for his wife and son, it being the land he had entered from the government. Rev. Springer is buried in the family graveyard on the southeastern part of the farm.

From the time Rev. Peter Akers, D. D., took charge of the mission station at Beardstown, in 1836, the Methodist Episcopal church increased in Cass County, and charges were established at a number of points. Virginia charge was established in 1851. Services were held in the public schoolhouse, on the old west public square, which had been built and used for the first courthouse in the county. In 1855 the first Methodist Episcopal church building was erected in Virginia, on lots 58 and 59 of the original town, on the north side of west Springfield street, one block west of the courthouse square. It was a frame building, about 30 x 50 feet, of oblong shape, and fronted south. It had a wide, double-door entrance, and a square bell tower above the front. The sawed timbers used in its construction were hauled in the fall of 1854, by teams from the steam sawmill on Mauvisterre Creek, a few miles north of Jacksonville. Rev. Peter Cartwright preached the dedicatory sermon. The first pastor of the station was Rev. William Owen, in 1851, and the charge has been regularly supplied by the conference every year since. The old building served the congregation for forty years, but on July 25, 1895, the cornerstone of a new building was laid, and the edifice was dedicated on January 26, 1896, and stands on lots 83 and 84 of the original town, on the north side of State street, one-half block east of the courthouse square. It is a substantial brick building of gothic style of architecture, with a large main audience room, and Sunday school room to the side which may be thrown open with the main room. It has parlor and reading rooms on the second floor, is supplied with all modern conveniences, is beautifully finished and decorated, steam heated and electric-lighted. On November 11, 1911, it was almost totally destroyed by the terrible cyclone which is elsewhere described, but was immedi-

ately rebuilt and restored without a change in design. The church has a splendid pipe organ, an excellent Sunday school largely attended, and supports aid societies organized according to modern ideas, so that the church organization is kept in the foremost rank of religious activities.

At Chandlerville, a number of the Methodist faith were preached to in private houses until about 1850, when a regular pastor was secured for the charge, and the Congregational church building rented for service. In 1852 a frame building was erected on a lot donated by Dr. Chandler, and the society has been kept up ever since. The remodeled church is a convenient place of worship, and the members of the congregation are prosperous.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Ashland was organized in 1857, using the Mitchell schoolhouse, southwest of the village, for meeting purposes for some time. In 1861 it was reorganized, and meetings were held in vacant store buildings, and later in the village schoolhouse. A substantial frame building was erected in 1870, and the congregation increased and prospered, and having outgrown the old building, a splendid new brick building of modern stlye and convenience was erected in 1911, on the same site. Walter S. Rearick, who has been president of the county Sunday school association for a number of years, has been superintendent of the Sunday school of this church, and one of the most energetic and active members of the Ashland congregation for over twenty years.

Arenzville has a fine congregation of active and energetic members who erected a handsome new building in 1905, where they have regular services weekly, and a progressive Sunday school.

There were a number of Methodist charges established in the rural parts of the county, some in a very early day, and others later on. Quite a number of them have been disbanded, and the church property reverted to the donors, or was sold and taken to other districts. There are yet churches at Monroe, Garner Chapel, Bluff Springs, Griggs Chapel, Richmond and Zion in Princeton Precinct. The Centenary Church, near the home of John Beggs, north and west of Ashland, was built and named in honor of the hundredth anniversary of the Methodist Episcopal church in America. It is in an excellent community, and is well supported.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES.

The first church building to be erected at Beardstown was placed on the corner of Fifth and Washington streets and designated the German Evangelical church. The building was completed late in 1841, and served the purpose of the German Evangelical congregation until a change in the organization of the society itself was made in 1845, when the name was changed to the German Methodist church. At least a large portion of the former congregation adopted that name, and although the Evangelical church continued in existence for a time, it disintegrated and the building was sold to H. T. Foster, who turned it into a dwelling. The other branch, known as the German Methodist, continued to exist for a number of years.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES.

The second church edifice at Beardstown was built at the corner of Third and Washington streets, in 1845, by the Presbyterians, but in February, 1850, the organization became a Congregational church, and is known as the First Congregational Church of Beardstown. This church includes within its fold many of the best citizens of Beardstown, and the surrounding country. In 1909 the old brick building that had stood as a landmark on the public corner for so long a time, was torn away, and a new, up-to-date building was commenced. This was completed and dedicated in 1912. It is a handsome structure and so built and apportioned as to meet the requirements of the prosperous congregation and the excellent Sunday school.

There is but one other Congregational society in Cass County, and it is located at Chandlerville. This society also started as a Presbyterian organization under the guidance of Revs. Hale and Baldwin, in October, 1836. Services were held in the house of Dr. Chandler, but in 1841, a church building of moderate cost was erected, and regular pastors employed. By a vote of the members, the organization became the Congregational church, and the change was made a matter of record in 1847. This congregation had some noted people as its pastors or occasional preachers, including President Sturtevant and Prof. J. B. Turner, of the Illinois College at Jacksonville, as well as Rev. Thomas Lippincott, father of General Charles E. Lippincott. These ministers were all noted men in the

early history of Illinois, and their respective biographies, which appear in the first volume of this work, are very interesting and worthy of perusal. In 1879 the congregation believed it time to erect a new house of worship. The little old church which had stood the storms for forty years was still in fair condition, but no longer suitable for the needs of the large congregation that had grown up in the progressive village. The old building was sold to a carpenter, Jacob Metzmaker, and moved off the lots, and a new, commodious frame building erected. It was dedicated January 14, 1881. This building served until 1904 when, while it was undergoing some repairs, it mysteriously caught fire and was totally destroyed. A new building was commenced soon thereafter and finished, being dedicated December 9, 1906. It is of frame, of handsome design, and stands in a beautiful grove on a tract of high, rolling land, originally donated by Dr. Chandler, the founder of the village.

BAPTIST CHURCHES.

Among the early Baptist ministers were Rev. Cyrus Wright and Rev. William Crow, the latter being said to have preached at many places in the eastern part of the county as early as 1827. Rev. Cyrus Wright preached at most of the appointments in the county throughout the country regions, and in Virginia and Beardstown. He later entered politics, was elected to the lower house of the legislature, and served his constituents well in that body.

The Baptists now have a good sized congregation and a new and unusually handsome, modern church building, at Ashland. In that community, although long before the idea of its developing into a town or village, William Crow and a few other devoted members of the faith, had preached the gospel to the scattered settlers. At Mt. Olive, on the upper Sangamon bottom road, in Richmond Precinct, there has been a Baptist church for about forty years, but its services are very irregular, and it seems difficult to keep a pastor employed, although the community is composed of as excellent citizens as are to be found in the county. There is also a Baptist church at Beardstown, organized recently, that seems to be gathering some strength. At Virginia, where the Baptists are not numerically strong, there is a very comfortable church edifice, but no regular services have been held in it for some time.

LUTHERAN CHURCHES.

The Lutheran church at Beardstown and elsewhere in the county has a number of church societies and houses of worship. The church at Beardstown, known as the Fourth Street Lutheran church, was instituted by certain members of the German Methodist church, who felt that a new organization would better enable them to conduct their services and exercise their faith in accordance with their views of the teaching of the scriptures, than they could by remaining with the German Methodists. In 1848 a building was erected on lot 1 of block 45, original town, which was used as a school for the church, as well as for a place of worship. About 1850, the congregation built a church at the corner of Fourth and Lafayette streets. About 1871, a difference arose among the members, and a new church society was formed and a new building erected, on Sixth street, where the new congregation worships. In 1894 the Fourth street church built a new building, of an excellent, ornamental as well as practical design, and it is well furnished and handsomely decorated on the interior, is also supplied with a splendid pipe organ, the first one to be placed in any church in the county. Services are conducted in both German and English. An energetic Sunday school is an important feature of the church.

At Chandlerville, a local society of the Evangelical Lutheran church was organized in 1870, and in a short time erected a church building. Previous to the construction of their building, they had held services in the Congregational and Christian church buildings. A parochial school was organized in connection with the church, the minister of the church acting as a teacher. The congregation is not large, but includes the majority of the German families in the village and surrounding country.

Arenzville has a flourishing Lutheran congregation which has been in existence since the platting of the village. A new church building was erected later on, the materials used being brick and stone, and the completed edifice is as substantial a structure as may be seen outside of the city of Beardstown.

A convenient church edifice was built by the Lutherans at Bluff Springs in 1910, where regular services are held which are attended by a fair congregation.

About two miles north and a little west of

Arenzville, on section 25, township 17, range 12, the Lutherans have a church and a school where they have ministered to the spiritual wants and educational interests of the community for over forty years. About six miles west from this church, on section 30, of the same township, was erected, about 1876, another Lutheran church, and a parsonage. It has ever since been maintained for the benefit of the residents of that neighborhood who otherwise would be compelled to go a long distance to attend public worship. At one time a country post office was established at that point, and named Lydia.

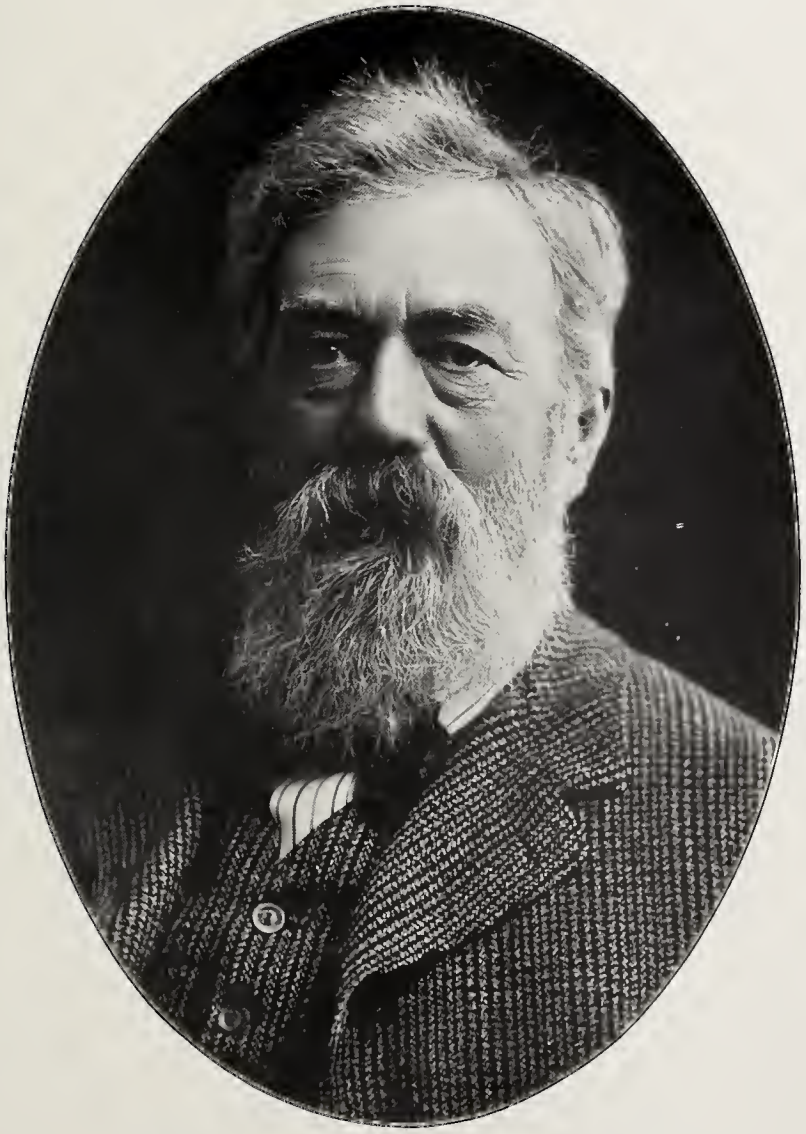
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

The Cumberland Presbyterians were the first to erect a church in Arenzville, which was in 1854, but it appears when completed there were not sufficient funds in the treasury to defray the expense, and by common consent the building was used by all denominations until 1870, when the Cumberland Presbyterians paid off the debt and became sole proprietors. This denomination flourished well and was very prosperous for a number of years, and established churches at Virginia, where a brick edifice was erected, and at Hickory, on the Sangamon bottom, which still maintains its organization and an excellent country Sunday school. There is a regular pastor at this charge.

The Shiloh Cumberland Presbyterian church was organized in the neighborhood about three and one-half miles west of Virginia, and in 1857 a frame building was erected, of the style then in common use for country churches. It stood on section 6, township 17, range 10, and faced the highway toward the west. Later it was deemed advisable to seek a new location for the building of a new church, and the old one was disposed of, a tract of land secured on section 31, township 18, range 10, on the east side of the public highway running north and south, and but a small distance north of the line of the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad. There a new frame building of about the same seating capacity as the old church, yet of more modern design, was erected, in which the services are pretty regularly held, and a Sunday school is maintained throughout the year. The church building of the Cumberland Presbyterians mentioned as having been built in 1879, at Virginia, is no longer used for public worship. It stands on the lot on the northwest corner or junction of east State and Cass streets. The Woman's Club now occupies it as a rest room and meeting place for the transaction of club business.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

On November 21, 1911, the congregation of the Central Presbyterian church and that of the First Presbyterian church of Virginia, united, and occupy as a place of worship the new church built by the latter organization. Upon the consolidation of the two congregations, they adopted the name originally borne by the first church, that of the Presbyterian church, of Virginia. It is the largest and most active church of that denomination now in Cass County. The original Presbyterian church of Virginia was organized on July 4, 1863, upon petition that was signed and headed by Dr. G. W. Goodspeed, the well known physician who lived and practiced his profession for so many years at Virginia and in the surrounding country. The church building, however, had been erected in 1857, but not quite completed that year, although services were held therein, and the next year the building was completed. This church was thereafter used for forty-four years. Rev. John Dale, who was the stated supply at the Providence church for a number of years, had filled the pulpit at Virginia, but when he entered the Union army in 1862, as chaplain, it was thought desirable that a separate congregation be established at Virginia. This led to the petition above mentioned. Upon the organization of the church in 1863, Dr. G. W. Goodspeed and David Downing were elected and installed as elders, and Glasgow Clendenin, J. N. Wilson, J. J. Bergen and A. G. Angier were ordained as deacons. In 1865, Rev. David J. Strain preached as supply for the congregation, and his work was so satisfactory that he was extended a regular call, and on June 20, 1866, he was installed pastor. He remained as a regular pastor until June 13, 1880, at which time, on account of advancing age, and failing health, he resigned. He again was made its regular pastor, June 27, 1884, and continued in its service until his death, which occurred March 5, 1896. No minister of the gospel in Cass County, and no minister of any community, was more beloved by a congregation, or was more highly respected by all people. A beautiful memorial window was placed in the new church by the congregation as a testimonial of the love



W. W. Corner

and esteem they had for their departed pastor. The building mentioned as erected in 1857 was put up on lot 111, of the original town of Virginia, on the south side of west State or Beardstown street, just east of the county jail. This building is now owned by Robert Mann, who uses it as a photograph gallery. A new church, of a beautiful and unique design, was erected by the congregation. It was commenced in 1901, and completed and dedicated July 6, 1902. It stands on lot 3, of Barden and Wood's Addition to Virginia, at the junction of Hardin and south Cass streets, and is of stone and brick, with elegant audience room and Sunday school and class rooms so arranged that the whole may be thrown open together to accommodate a large audience. The church is supplied with a pipe organ. There is a large basement which is used as a special class room and for social gatherings. The cathedral glass windows are of exceptionally artistic design. The membership of this congregation is large, and it has a number of missionary and other church auxiliaries, and a most excellent Sunday school. The old bell which rang out over the prairies for a half a century from the tower of the frame building now swings in the new tower, the only one left of all the original church bells in the town.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

The Catholics of Cass County are represented by a number of organizations. The one at Virginia is St. Luke's Roman Catholic church, and was organized about 1840. For a number of years it held its meetings in a frame building on lot 86 of the Public Grounds Addition to Virginia, south of the first court house square in the west part of town. There the local church was organized. The first official Catholic ceremony that occurred at Virginia appears to have been the baptism of Jane, daughter of Robert Maslin and Ellen (Dolan) Maslin, June 2, 1867, Rev. J. A. Jacque officiating. This priest ministered to the wants of Catholics throughout Menard and Schuyler, as well as Cass county. In 1868 Rev. A. C. Busch took charge, and continued his ministrations at Virginia and throughout the county, so continuing until 1873, when Father J. A. Mark attended at Virginia. About 1875 a new church building was commenced on lot 1, of the original town of Virginia, at the corner of Cass and Myrtle streets. The work was halted for some reason, and in 1876 Father M. C Ryan took charge and the building was completed about 1878. In 1891 Father P. J. McMannus succeeded Father Ryan, and remained until 1893. From that time until 1895, priests from Jacksonville attended. In the latter year Father Maskel was appointed, and was succeeded by Father Thomas McGrath, who, in turn, was followed by Father M. J. Davis, who remained until 1906, when the present incumbent, Father Cronin, succeeded. A parochial house was built in 1893 or 1894, while Father Crowe of Jacksonville was in charge. Improvements on church and parsonage, costing $3,000, were made in 1909-10. From the time a priest was located permanently at Virginia, in 1873, the Chandlerville Catholics have been attended from there. There is also a mission at Arenzville, with church building and property, which from its organization until 1902 was under the care of Beardstown, but in that year it was transferred to the care of Father Davis, and is still ministered to from Virginia.

Ashland Catholic church was organized in 1871, and services were held in the schoolhouse. In a short time, however, a small building was erected, but the congregation grew so rapidly, that in 1880 lots were purchased in block 43 on west Main street, and plans begun for the erection of a new church and parsonage. The building was completed in 1882 and is a handsome frame structure that cost about $5,500.

St. Alexious Catholic church of Beardstown was organized about 1871, but there had been a Catholic organization prior to that time, and regular services held. The church property was deeded in 1857 to the bishop of the diocese in which Beardstown was located, for the use of the Catholic population of Beardstown. A building was erected in 1857, and considerably enlarged and improved in 1860. In 1871 the real estate was deeded by the Bishop of Alton to the St. Alexious Catholic church of Beardstown, and later a substantial new church was built. It is of brick with stone foundation, tall spire and cathedral glass windows. It stands on lot 6 of block 45 of Beard and March's Addition, facing south on Sixth street. There is a large and prosperous congregation and a parochial school, the building for which is on the same block, facing on Fifth street.

CHRISTIAN OR DISCIPLE CHURCHES.

The Christian or Disciples church came into Cass County in a very early day. Elder

Barton Stone and others preached in various places in this and in surrounding counties. In 1861, Elder D. W. Shurtleff preached at Beardstown, and organized a local congregation, but it did not remain in existence long. The Civil war coming on, the flock was scattered, and there not being enough members to establish a strong local church, owing to the strength of the other denominations, the project was temporarily abandoned. In 1862 Elder Shurtleff went to Chandlerville, and at the Pleasant Ridge schoolhouse organized a church, with Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wilson, W. D. Leeper and others assisting. The congregation grew from this beginning, and when it was decided to erect a church edifice, Robert Cole, J. A. Raines, S. B. Jones and James Armstrong were appointed as the building committee to carry out the project. Elders Raines and Rice preached alternately for some time. Prof. McCaukle, of Eureka College, and Elder A. G. Kane, of Springfield, held revival meetings, and thereby many were induced to unite with the church. In 1863 Dr. N. H. Boone, a member of the Disciples church, located at Chandlerville, and at once took a deep interest, and a flourishing Sunday school was organized and has since been well maintained. In the year 1911 it was deemed most expedient to build a new church edifice and the work was commenced at once. It is of frame, with a brick and concrete foundation, of handsome and pleasing design in outward appearance, and very conveniently arranged on the interior, no space being wasted. The basement is nicely furnished and is used for the meeting of the Sunday school and for social gatherings of the congregation.

The Christian church of Virginia built a house of worship in 1854, on lots 9 and 10 of Hall's Addition to the Public Grounds, at the junction of west Beardstown and Job streets. Services were held and preaching done by itinerant preachers whose names have passed from the memory of those now living, and the records have been lost. In 1873 the church was revived and services held, but not very regularly, until 1875, when the church was fully reorganized. Revival meetings were held at various times and a regular pastor employed. Part of the time Rev. C. W. Elder, a son of Dr. Elder, the first physician to locate in or near Cass County, preached for the congregation. In 1879 the old building was torn down and the material removed to lot 96, of the original town of Virginia, at the corner of East State and Cass streets, and a new building erected. This served the congregation until 1894, when it became necessary on account of the increased membership to have a larger room. The old building was therefore remodeled, and a room added in the rear for Sunday school purposes. This building was dedicated by Elder Raines of Cincinnati, Ohio, December 16, 1894, but in June, 1897, it caught fire during an electric storm, and was burned to the ground, nothing being saved, the loss including the Sunday school books, records, and furniture. The congregation accepted the tender of the use of the Baptist church, where services were held until the new church was completed on the old site. This was in 1898, and the dedicatory exercises took place on October 30th of that year. The new building is an excellent one of brick and stone, with two corner towers, and cathedral glass windows of beautiful design. There is a large Sunday school room, with a full opening at the side of the main audience room, being separated from it by rolling doors. A fine pipe organ stands in an alcove at the left of the pulpit. There is also a fair sized basement, fitted adequately and used for social purposes and for a class room for some of the grade classes. The congregation is prosperous, and the Sunday school is excellent.

At Ashland there is also a congregation owning a substantial frame building, but the services have been somewhat irregular. Notwithstanding adversities, the brethren here have kept the faith and consistently supported the plea of a united church for all Christian people.

Beardstown revived the church at that place, or rather organized an entirely new congregation, April 5, 1911. Meetings had been held and a Sunday school organized in September of the year prior to the organization, and the success of these undertakings prompted the ones interested to incorporate a local church. The first pastor of the new church was Elder George W. Morton, who still continues in charge. The church was incorporated as the Central Christian church of Beardstown, Ill. Trustees were elected and the church property of the former German Methodists at the corner of Fifth and State streets, was purchased. In 1913, this edifice was remodeled so that now it is a very convenient and modern place of worship. The congregation is prosperous and growing.

ABANDONED CHURCHES.

Some of the abandoned churches to which reference is here briefly made, that were organized at a very early day, continued for a number of years and assisted very materially in civilizing the communities and in raising the moral standard to a high grade.

The Cumberland Presbyterian church had a building on sectiou 6, township 17, range 10, on the ground donated by Rev. Benjamin Cauby in 1837. Later, about 1857, a new building was erected on the same grouud, the old one being torn away, but in 1889 this building was abandoned. In 1843 the same denomination erected a building at Virginia, on lot 91 of Hall's first addition to Virginia. The building faced the south, and was located uear the north end of the lot, and the entrance to the front of the church was from Job street on the west. This building remained in active use until 1879, when the congregatiou built its new church edifice on Cass and east State streets. About 1904 it was purchased by the Holiuess congregation and moved to lot 86 of the same addition and was placed facing north on Beardstown street. It was used by the above named sect of Christians until 1912, when it was destroyed by fire. These people, who now bear the name of Nazarenes, built a new church edifice aud continue to worship iu it.

The Missionary Baptists built a church edifice at Princeton in 1835, but it did not remain there long, although there appears to be uo defiuite record of its removal.

In 1838 the Christian church congregation built a church edifice on lots 46 and 47, iu Princeton, and continued to hold services at regular intervals until 1867, when, it becoming evident that Princeton would not be likely to increase in population or importance, and that the membership was decreasing, it was decided best to take down the building and move it to Philadelphia Precinct, where it was needed. About that time meetings had been held in a schoolhouse at Panther Grove, and later in the workshop of Joseph Black at Philadelphia, and thus the Philadelphia Christian church was organized. The old Princeton building was set up in Philadelphia Precinct on lots 1 and 2, in block 8, where it still stands, but the congregation is practically abandoned, there being preaching only occasionally.

The Oregon Methodist Episcopal church society erected a building in 1869, on ground bought of Joseph Alison, but after being utilized for many years by the community as a church, it was abandoned, and is now the property of the county, bought in 1914. It is used as a voting and general meeting place for the transaction of the business of the road commissioners and other precinct officials. A church structure for union services was built in 1851 or 1852 on the southwest corner of section 21, township 17, range 10, ou the Jacksouville road, about three miles south of Virginia, but it soon became the property of the Methodist Episcopal church aud continued as a place of worship for that body until 1898, when that society was discontinued, and in 1909 the building was sold and removed.

The Clear Creek Baptist church was organized in Mouroe Precinct, by Rev. John Ray, iu his own cabin, in 1832. The society coutiuued to hold its meetings in the cabius of the settlers until 1852, when the community felt itself deserving of a church edifice and erected a comfortable frame building, in which they held their religious meetings until 1898, when, the Baptist congregation haviug disbanded, the building was taken over by the people to be used as a business house for the precinct, and is so used at the present time. The Baptist church built near Hickory, not far from the present schoolhouse at that point, in 1853, was also abandoned aud was removed about 1885.

A Christian church edifice, that was used as a union church, was built iu a very early day, the exact date of which caunot be ascertained, on a tract of laud adjoining the Indian Creek schoolhouse, in the northwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 29, township 17, range 12. It was abandoned about 1875, and a few years later torn down.

At Puncheon Grove, in the northeastern part of the county, the Baptists, under the preaching of Rev. Cyrus Wright, became fully organized and built a small frame church, which was also used as a schoolhouse. It was erected in 1842, and meetings were held very regularly until the death of their minister, Mr. Wright, when the congregation became scattered and the buildiug fell into disuse and decay, and was eventually torn down. Methodist Episcopal and Christian church buildings are yet standing at Newmanville, but are not used regularly by either society.

The Provideuce Presbyterian church, about four miles southwest of Virginia, had been

organized for a number of years before the same denomination established a regular charge at Virginia, and had been holding services at the houses of the various members where the people could be accommodated, but, as the congregation increased it became almost imperative that a special and appropriate building should be provided. After the matter was agitated among the members, it appears, from the records, that on March 22, 1854, William Nesbit made a deed to Samuel McClure, Jacob F. Bergen, George Wilson, John Dobson and William Petefish, trustees of the Old School Presbyterian Church of township 17, range 10, as a donation in consideration of the erection of a church building. This church edifice was put up that year and is still standing, in comparatively good condition, but no regular services are now held in it, and so it really belongs among the abandoned churches.

There are other buildings in the county, or decayed portions of them yet remaining, that have not been mentioned because there is no definite information obtainable regarding them. It does not indicate that religious sentiment has deteriorated because of these ruins, as the majority of the people who were connected with them united with other congregations of neighboring towns or cities, so that it was not deemed advisable to longer continue the support of so many churches in the outlying districts of the county. The lawless class that usually gathers along the frontier of a new county, robbing, thieving, stealing horses and committing all manner of wicked depredations, had been pretty well cleared out of the country before Cass became a separate county, and therefore as a county Cass had but little experience with such people. Yet, if it had not been for the spirit which prompted Christian organizations, such as represented by these same abandoned churches, with their unmistakable influence for good, and the exemplary lives of the supporters of those churches which laid the foundation for Christian civilization, we might, possibly, be still living in ignorance and the semi-barbarism that prevailed when Illinois was but a county of the Old Dominion.

While there were many denominational churches, and even a greater diversity of opinions concerning the teaching of the scriptures, there appears to have been but one society in the early history of Cass County that possessed religious fanatics of such a character as to prove a menace to the rights or liberties of individuals or the peace of the community. In 1834 the grand jury of Morgan County indicted some religious fanatics. This action presumably arose out of an incident which was said to have occurred in a small settlement on Middle Creek, in Lucas, now Richmond Precinct, but the facts have not been fully verified, nor has the exact location of the sect been certainly determined. It is said they believed in witchcraft and if anything went wrong in the settlement, they charged it to some one in the community, whom, they declared, was making use of devilish acts. They further claimed, so it is said, that such a person should be burned as an offering to appease the wrath of an offended deity, and they cast lots to determine who was the guilty person. Upon the last occasion of this casting of lots, the condemnation fell upon an old woman. She was bound and placed in one end of an old cabin where there was a large open fireplace, and a fire was kindled about her. She might have trusted to her martyr spirit, but it deserted her when the flames reached her and she screamed so loudly that she attracted the attention of a Mr. Elmore, who was in the neighborhood, hunting, and, breaking open the door with a rail, he scattered the fire and released the victim. The others concerned fled to the timber, but Elmore reported them to the authorities, and the indictment followed. That put an end to witchcraft in Cass County, or at least it ended the attempt by any sect to inflict so barbarous a punishment upon anyone supposed to be possessed by evil spirits.

The foregoing is a meagre but general history of all the denominational churches in the county. The great number of them and their various changes has necessarily limited the history to a general statement. Though there may be many whose names are not mentioned in this or any history, who are recalled by some of the present generation, and possibly many whose names are forgotten along with their particular efforts and sacrifices, yet the civilizing influences of all who came in the early days and battled with the adverse circumstances and conditions of early pioneer life, that they might spread the gospel, has been such that the present generation does, and all succeeding generations will forever, owe a debt of gratitude to those who long since have passed to their reward.



Anne M Crum

CHAPTER XVIII.

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

EARLY PREJUDICE OVERCOME—THE FREEMASONS AND ODD FELLOWS FIRST IN THE FIELD—ODD FELLOW LODGES AT BEARDSTOWN—VIRGINIA—PRENTICE — ARENZVILLE —CHANDLERVILLE—REBEKAH AUXILIARIES AT BEARDSTOWN AND VIRGINIA—MASONIC LODGES — BEARDSTOWN — VIRGINIA — CHANDLERVILLE—EASTERN STAR AT VIRGINIA AND BEARDSTOWN — MODERN WOODMEN CAMPS — CHANDLERVILLE — VIRGINIA — BEARDSTOWN — ARENZVILLE—ASHLAND—BLUFF SPRINGS—OTHER ORGANIZATIONS—COURT OF HONOR—KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—LOYAL LEGION—ROYAL BENEFIT—UNITED WORKMEN—KNIGHTS OF MACCABEE—FRATERNAL ARMY OF AMERICA—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—RED MEN—ELKS—WOMEN'S CLUBS—BEARDSTOWN — VIRGINIA—ASHLAND—CHANDLERVILLE—WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION —GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC—CASS COUNTY POSTS—SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS.

EARLY PREJUDICE OVERCOME

A large number of fraternal societies, or, as they are more popularly known, secret orders, have been organized in Cass County, or established as subordinate lodges or camps of the general organization. The prejudice that once existed against all secret societies has almost entirely disappeared, and the helpfulness to society in general, and the community at large, and the special benefits to the individual members, are now recognized and appreciated. Probably the first fraternal society whose members were to be found among the early settlers here, was the Free Masons, although the Odd Fellows were, perhaps, the first to establish a local lodge.

ODD FELLOWS.

BEARDSTOWN.—Ark Lodge, No. 16, I. O. O. F., of Beardstown, was instituted May 13, 1846, with the following charter members: S. A. Carnau, J. H. Matheney, J. W. Crosby, Thomas P. Norton, Samuel Johnston, Thomas J. Burns, Jacob Ritcher, O. M. Warner, John Throp, J. B. Taylor, George Moore, William Davis, R. F. Knippenberg, B. F. Rusk, David Black, and Warren Yaple. The first officers were: noble grand, Thomas P. Norton; vice grand, Samuel Johnston; secretary, Thomas J. Burns; treasurer, John Throp. This lodge owns its building, which is a large, two-story brick structure, on the corner of Washington and Main streets, on lot 5, of block 10, original town of Beardstown, with lodge rooms above and store rooms on the first floor. It was erected in 1889. Judge Henry Phillips of Beardstown was a member of Ark Lodge before he moved to Virginia, in 1877, when he transferred his membership to Saxon Lodge. He was grand master of the order for the state of Illinois from November, 1893, to November, 1894, after that time being a member of the judiciary and appeals committee. Subsequently he again transferred his membership to Ark Lodge. Goodwin Rebekah Lodge, No. 192, the woman's auxiliary of the Beardstown Odd Fellows' lodge, was instituted on November 22, 1888. The following were the first officers: noble grand, Mrs. Stella Smith; vice grand, Mrs. Max Deering; secretary, Mrs. Hattie Garrison.

VIRGINIA.—Saxon Lodge No. 68, I. O. O. F. of Virginia, was instituted at Virginia, March 14, 1850, with the following charter members: P. O. Bryan, N. B. Newman, R. S. Lord, I. N. White, Charles Boyd, W. H. H. Carpenter, and William H. Collins. The first officers were: noble grand, Rufus S. Lord; vice grand, W. H. H. Carpenter; secretary, I. N. White; treasurer, N. B. Newman. Virginia Rebekah Lodge, No. 239, was instituted November 21, 1889, with a number of the brethren, and the following ladies as charter members: Mrs. Adah Henderson, Mrs. W. W. Walker, Mrs. Ella Walker, Mrs. A. A. Leeper, Mrs. J. F. Robison, Mrs. Belle Hiles, Mrs. Sue H. Downing, Mrs. M. Graves, and Mrs. Laura Kors.

PRENTICE.—Oak Lodge No. 341, I. O. O. F., was organized at Prentice, Morgan County, October 9, 1867, but removed to Ashland, October 10, 1877. The first officers, who were also charter members were: noble grand, John M. Berry; vice grand, John W. Crum; secretary, Albert Short; treasurer, John L. Douglas. The other charter members were: John M. Brockman, John W. Daniel, Martin Berry, Sumner Daniel, Samuel Hart, and Benjamin Berry.

ARENZVILLE.—Arenzville Lodge No. 471, I. O.

O. F., was organized October 8, 1872, and the first officers were: noble grand, L. J. Walich; vice grand, W. F. Bridgeman; secretary, Dr. Adam Wenger. Other charter members were: Calvin Ore, William L. Richardson, Henry Maule, John A. Smith, and William I. Richardson.

Chandlerville.—Cass Lodge No. 1012, I. O. O. F., of Chandlerville, was organized December 1, 1911, and received its charter November 21, 1912. The following were the charter members and first officers: noble grand, B. F. Owens; vice grand, S. L. Watkins; secretary, John W. Cherry; treasurer, H. S. Leeper, and Horace Sisson, Jacob Davis, Elijah Needham, F. B. Pickrel, S. E. Hutches, J. M. Milstead, H. J. Anderson, Gotlieb Zorn and Smith Workman.

THE FREE MASONS.

Beardstown.—Cass Lodge No. 23, A. F. & A. M., of Beardstown, was organized in October, 1843, and on the 4th of that month, the charter was granted, but whether at Jacksonville and afterwards moved to Beardstown, or granted at Jacksonville for Beardstown, is not made exactly clear, but the presumption is that it was granted at Jacksonville, for the organization of the lodge at Beardstown. That would make the Masonic lodge the first and oldest in the county. The original charter was destroyed by fire, January 23, 1876, but was replaced January 26, of the same year. The first officers were: worshipful master, O. Underwood; A. Bonny, senior warden; W. Basset, junior warden. The names of other charter or early members are not now attainable. The present worshipful master is G. M. Humphrey, and the present secretary is W. F. Thron.

Virginia.—Virginia Lodge No. 544, A. F. & A. M., was organized at Virginia, April 3, 1867, and received its charter October 1, of the same year, with the following charter members: G. F. Hillig, W. A. Harding, L. P. R. Yaple, Casper Magel, P. Underwood, H. H. Hall, James Smith, James M. Rodney, William Cox, L. S. Allard, Lee Carpenter, and H. Barden. The first officers were: worshipful master, G. F. Hillig; senior warden, William A. Harding, and junior warden, L. P. R. Yaple.

Chandlerville.—The Masonic lodge at Chandlerville was chartered October 7, 1874, with the following charter members: Linus C. Chandler, C. C. Brown, John Chandler, J. A. Paddock, L. M. Dick, Robert Clark, N. H. Boone, H. T. Chandler, N. S. Reed, Isaac Butler, John Kershaw, John Mullen, J. M. Telles, William Swartwood, T. A. Skaggs, Henry C. Neff, Somodore Silvernail, and John Morse. The first officers were: worshipful master, L. C. Chandler; and secretary, John Morse.

Eastern Star.

Adah Robinson Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, was formed in the fall of 1894 or 1895, at Virginia. A fire occurred a few years later, and the records having been burned, the exact date of organization cannot now be ascertained. The following were the first officers: worthy matron, Mrs. Lillie Downing; worthy patron, A. A. Leeper, and associate matron, Mrs. Laura Kors. Other charter members were: Harry F. Downing, Mrs. Eva Leeper, H. F. Kors, Mrs. Maggie Mann, R. H. Mann, Mrs. Sue Downing, Finis E. Downing, Mrs. Jennie M. Dunaway, Thomas Dunaway, Mrs. Louis Montgomery, C. S. Montgomery, Mrs. Maggie Gordley, C. A. Schaeffer, Mrs. Mary J. Robinson, J. F. Robinson, A. J. Coons, A. G. Dunaway, Mrs. Louise Davis, A. L. Anderson, D. H. Salzebstein, and L. A. Petefish. Beardstown Chapter No. 113, O. E. S., has been organized for some years, and has a large membership, it being in a prosperous condition. Its helpfulness towards its members and its uplifting influences have been felt very materially in the social affairs of the city and community.

Modern Woodmen of America.

Chandlerville.—Pecan Camp No. 530, M. W. A., was organized at Chandlerville, February 29, 1888, with the following charter members: A. M. Pendleton, J. H. Kinney, H. S. Leeper, L. M. Dick, I. N. Reed, Herman Rethorn, S. C. Fielden, J. J. Clegg, J. C. Morse, F. H. Morse, J. O. Upp, Moses Crowell, and Eb. Spink. The first officers were: venerable counsel, L. M. Dick; worthy advisor, H. S. Leeper; esteemed banker, J. J. Clegg; clerk, A. M. Pendelton; watchman, Ed. Spink; Escort, I. N. Reed; sentry, Moses Crowell; managers, Herman Rethorn, J. C. Morse, and S. C. Fielden.

Virginia.—Virginia Camp No. 588, M. W. A., was organized at Virginia, April 25, 1888, with the following members who became the first

officers: venerable counsel, J. F. Robinson; worthy advisor, C. M. Tinney; esteemed banker, L. A. Petefish; clerk, Matt Yaple; escort, J. I. Parkhurst; watchman, R. L. Duncan; sentry, David Weh; local physician, C. M. Hubbard; managers, J. A. Jones, F. E. Downing, and William M. Henry.

Beardstown.—Muscooten Camp No. 579, M. W. A., was organized at Beardstown, May 22, 1888, with the following charter members: R. L. Fulk, J. T. Iston, L. J. Golden, J. H. Swope, T. C. Harris, Peter Flannery, J. S. Townsley, Peter Gilson, F. Rutzen, Dr. George Bley, W. O. Self, A. H. Noe, F. A. Horton, E. E. McKenzie, A. S. Coil, L. J. Selby, H. W. Carter, J. L. Kramer, N. Hiltner, J. Weal, N. R. Brash, J. D. Colburn, and E. Meyers. The first officers were: venerable counsel, F. C. Harris; worthy advisor, Edward Meyers; esteemed banker, Dr. George Bley; clerk, A. S. Coil; escort, J. L. Selby; watchman, E. E. McKenzie; sentry, N. Hiltner.

Arenzville.—Arenzville Camp No. 685, M. W. A., was organized at Arenzville, August 18, 1888, with the following charter members who were also the first officers: venerable counsel, W. L. McCarthy; worthy advisor, John Rahn; esteemed banker, H. A. Bridgeman; clerk, P. J. Arenz; escort, T. A. Eaton; watchman, J. S. Batis; sentry, H. F. Arenz; camp physician, Dr. J. M. Swope; managers, Joseph Polite, W. L. McCarty and C. H. Dahman. C. Triebert and W. F. Arenz were also charter members. The present clerk is Harry F. Triebert, a son of C. Triebert.

Ashland.—Mulberry Camp No. 1436, M. W. A., was organized at Ashland July 14, 1890, with the following members who became the first officers: venerable counsel, A. F. Burnham; worthy advisor, J. N. Dorand; esteemed banker, Frank Cox; clerk, J. L. Martin; escort, B. A. Edwards; watchman, W. E. Johnson; sentry, E. W. Grogan; managers, D. Lyons, J. N. Dorand and C. W. Grogan; camp physician, Dr. A. F. Burnham. The present clerk is John N. Blank.

Bluff Springs.—Bluff Springs Camp No. 1489, was organized at Bluff Springs, September 30, 1890. The names of the charter members are not available, but the first officers were: venerable counsel, F. P. Matson; worthy advisor, A. W. Blohm; esteemed banker, C. Dupes; clerk, C. E. Parry; escort, John Reichert; managers, Dan. Hewit, William Steel and Engelbert Cramer; camp physician, Dr. George Bley.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

There are a number of other fraternal insurance orders in the county that have not made so much of the fraternal or social side of the order as have the Woodmen, and have thereby attracted less attention from the general public, but nevertheless have been of incalculable benefit to their members, and also, indirectly, to the community at large. Among them are: the Court of Honor, with several organizations at various points in the county; the Knights of Columbus; the Loyal Legion; the Royal Benefit Association; the United Workmen; Knights of Maccabee, and the Fraternal Army of America. There are also several other orders well represented that are social and beneficial in their character, such as the Knights of Pythias, the Red Men of America, the Elks, and probably some others. The Knights of Pythias have a large and prosperous lodge at Beardstown, and the Red Men have quite a large membership at both Virginia and Beardstown. The Elks own a splendid building on the north side of the Public Park, on Second street in Beardstown, and have a large membership.

WOMEN'S CLUBS.

About 1900 the women of Cass County became interested in the organization of clubs, both literary and social, and there are excellent clubs and societies now organized for mutual study and general helpfulness of women. That they may keep pace with the advancing mental activities of the sterner sex and fit themselves for the newer problems and the newer avennes of life opening to them in the twentieth century. Among these clubs are: the Woman's Club, of Beardstown; the Travelers' Club, of Virginia; the Woman's Club, of Ashland; and the Bay View Club, of Chandlerville. The last of these societies to organize was the Woman's Club, of Virginia. Most of the clubs have departments for social, literary, domestic and civic study and investigation, and since the act of the legislature, approved June 26, 1913, granting to women additional right of suffrage, considerable attention has been devoted to acquiring a more definite knowledge

of the particular subjects and branches of municipal government upon which they may be called to exercise the elective franchise.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union is a county wide organization, having for its purpose the curbing of intemperance by Christian influence. It is non-sectarion and non-political, and has the highest respect of all classes for the excellent results it is accomplishing.

THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC IN CASS COUNTY.

The Grand Army of the Republic is a patriotic and fraternal association limited to men who were soldiers or sailors in the Union army or navy during the Civil war, and were honorably discharged. It was founded by Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson, a resident of Springfield, Ill., who had enlisted and served in the Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry from Petersburg, Ill. His principal assistant was Rev. William J. Rutledge, chaplain of the same regiment. The system provides for grand and state encampments and local posts. "Its aims are to foster and strengthen fraternal feelings among members; to assist comrades needing help or protection, and aid comrades' widows and orphans, and to inculcate unswerving loyalty." Its first department commander of the Department of Illinois was Dr. Stephenson, its founder. Gen. Charles E. Lippincott of Chandlerville, Cass County, Ill., was department commander of Illinois during the year 1871. The first post was organized at Springfield, Ill., in 1866.

CASS COUNTY POSTS.

McLean Post No. 97, G. A. R., was organized at Beardstown, May 12, 1881, with the following charter members: James P. Sailor, Capt. B. F. Thacker, F. M. Davis, Christ Pilger, Charles Opits, John H. Wedeking, David R. Vincent, R. B. Fulks, Ezra Fish, M. L. Treadway, Edwin C. Foster, M. N. Parsons, N. Parsons, C. Mayries, G. F. Allen, August Christianer, J. F. Kaufenberger, and Fred L. Wells.

Downing Post No. 321, G. A. R., of Virginia, was organized August 6, 1883, with the following charter members: William Murray, Charles Kilendall, Joseph Lynch, George Davidson, E. J. Bingham, J. H. Gruer, John Fisher, G. R. McKee, Francis M. Davis, Eli M. Dale, John W. Plummer, William Calvert, Joseph L. Wright, Henry H. Berry, Gustave Hillig, Samuel Miller, John T. Evans, Henry C. Millner, Joseph Hunt, James S. McLin, Richard W. Mills, Martin Fox, and nine of the above are still living. There are a few soldiers now living here who did not enlist from Cass County, but who are now members of the post, they being: F. M. Felix, Two Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry; William W. Hare, Eighteenth Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry; W. S. Hurst, One Hundred and Ninety-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry; Reuben Lancaster, Sixth Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry; John E. Lacy, First Missouri Volunteer Cavalry; Thomas A. Peters, Fifteenth U. S. R.; C. M. Jacobs, Sixth Missouri Volunteer Infantry.

SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS.

Under the auspices of the Grand Army Posts, many soldiers' monuments have been erected in the cemeteries and public squares throughout the state. There are two monuments in Cass County, and one memorial rock. One is at Virginia and the other two at Beardstown.

The monument at Virginia is a shaft of Bedford stone, 11 feet high, surmounted by a life-size statue of an infantry soldier at parade rest. The monument was erected under the auspices of Downing Post No. 321, and cost $550, in addition to the donation by the sculptor, the late John S. Martin, who was a resident of Virginia, and whose father lost his life as a Union soldier during the Civil war. The life-size figure is a portrait statue of George W. Cunningham, of Virginia, an ex-soldier, a member of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Cunningham was a friend and fellow laborer with the sculptor for years, helping him in the erection of many of the finest monuments in the Virginia cemetery, and other cemeteries in this and adjoining counties. He was a faithful soldier, a good citizen, and one worthy of the honor thus bestowed upon him by his departed friend. The monument stands in the Grand Army lot in the beautiful Walnut Ridge Cemetery, a mile north of the city of Virginia. It was dedicated to the "Soldiers and Sailors of Illinois," May 30, 1895, Hon. Richard Yates making the principal address on this occasion. Near this monument lies the body of the only Revolutionary soldier, so far as known, buried in Cass County, that of Phineas Underwood. He



RESIDENCE OF DR. HENRY HALL
Founder of Virginia. Built in Virginia in 1834.
Robert Hall born here in 1835



MAIN STREET, ASHLAND



RESIDENCE DISTRICT, MAIN STREET, ASHLAND



CATHOLIC CHURCH,
ASHLAND



HIGH SCHOOL, ASHLAND



BAPTIST CHURCH,
ASHLAND



RESIDENCE OF DR. CHARLES
CHANDLER, CHANDLERVILLE
Built in 1836



M. E. CHURCH, ASHLAND

was born in Vermont in 1763, enlisted in 1781 in the Vermont line of troops, under Capt. Josiah Fish. He came to Illinois in 1826, locating near what is now Virginia, entered land in township 18, range 9, there remained until his death. He was buried in a country graveyard but later was by Downing Post, G. A. R., removed to the Walnut Ridge Cemetery, and a government marker placed at the head of his grave.

At Beardstown, in Oak Grove Cemetery, was erected by popular subscription, under the auspices of McLean Post, No. 97, at a cost of $800, a marble statue of an infantry soldier of heroic size. It was dedicated to the "Soldiers and Sailors of Illinois," June 16, 1891.

In the city cemetery, at Beardstown, has been erected, under the auspices of the Women's Relief Corps, and dedicated to the soldiers and sailors, a granite boulder, 7 feet high, surmounted by cannon balls. This boulder was brought from Schuyler County, under the direction of Christ Bradman, an ex-soldier, now deceased. The cost, which was nearly $450, was defrayed by popular subscription.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS—MANY EARLY PHYSICIANS COLLEGE GRADUATES—HARD LIFE AMONG PIONEERS—FIRST PHYSICIAN IN CASS COUNTY—OTHERS DURING FIRST DECADE—SEVERAL FOUNDERS OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES—DR. CHARLES CHANDLER—DR. HENRY HALL—DR. THOMAS POTHICARY—PHYSICIANS WHO CAME LATER—THEIR PART IN BUILDING UP THE COUNTY—A PROMINENT PHYSICIAN AND CHEMIST—PHYSICIANS OF THE PRESENT TIME—COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

Aside from the miasmatic districts of the low lands along the river bottoms, and around the stretches of sloughs and stagnant ponds on the prairies, the early climatic conditions of Cass County were fairly good. Since the formation of drainage districts in the river bottoms, and the introduction of tile draining whereby the boggy prairie lands have been all under-drained, and both localities relieved almost entirely of miasma, Cass County is probably as healthful a county as can be found in all Illinois. Notwithstanding the general healthfulness of the county the early settlers were subject to ailments that baffled the skill of the old men and women herb doctors, and it was hailed as a providential circumstance that brought the regular, educated and skilled physician into the wild and sparsely settled districts of this western country. Many of these physicians were graduates of some eastern college and some of a university of a foreign country, and might well have located in any of the populous towns or cities of the east, and in the course of time might have secured a lucrative practice, and some there were who did try the experiment. Armed with a diploma, which they had secured with so much hard mental toil, and which they looked upon as a sure passport to immediate wealth and fame, they selected a propitious locality and hung out their "shingle." Sick people, however, cared little for diplomas, and neglected to call the youngsters, but persisted in their simple-minded notion of sending for the old and experienced family physician who had long since forgotten he had ever possessed a diploma. It was this lack of encouragement on the part of civilization together with the lure of glowing accounts of the beauties of the western country and its rapidly increasing population, that led the young doctors to pack up their diplomas, their pill bags and lancet, and start west for the land said to be flowing with milk and honey.

The herb doctors, mentioned above, should not be classed with the regular physicians of a certain school who styled themselves "botanic doctors," but they include the good old grandmothers, and the thoughtful, elderly men to be found in every pioneer neighborhood, who had learned the medicinal values, and the stimulative and curative properties of a great many of the herbs, barks, plants and roots growing wild in the wooded country, and knew how to prepare them for use as household remedies, in cases of simple ailments. Ginseng, snakeroot, wild cherry bark, Indian turnip, calamus, boneset, slippery elm and walnut bark, were all gathered and stored away in niches and corners of the cabins for use when occasion demanded.

HARD LIFE AMONG PIONEERS.

When the regular physicians came, however, and located in or near a settlement, they were generally welcomed. In the main, they did not stand aloof and pose as a superior class, relying upon the dignity of their professiou as sufficient evidence of their superiority, but those who succeeded best usually selected a tract of land, and either purchased it from the prior owner, or entered it from the government, then immediately set about as did the other settlers, to make a home for themselves aud family; to advance the interests of the uew commuuity, and to add what they could to the general progress and prosperity. Many are remembered as noble, generous hearted and kiud, "animated by an indomitable spirit of progress aud enterprise." Yet, of all the inhabitauts of the uew country, the physicians, perhaps, endured the greatest hardships. At any and all hours of the night or day they were called upon to respond to the call for the relief of suffering; uo night beiug too dark or cold, no storm too severe to deter them. They swam their horses over swollen streams, and guided them through the timber and thickets of underbrush where not even a bridle path led to the widely separated dwellings of the pioneer. Often drenched with rain, and their clothing frozeu stiff upon theu, almost perishing, they plodded on, weary and hungry, and for but little remuneration at the best. In a measure, however, they had their reward. No person in all the couutry round was so highly respected as the doctor. The very word "doctor" before his uame was the sesame that threw open to him every door far aud wide. The best bed in the house was at his disposal, if he could find but a few minutes to take a much ueeded repose, while the very choicest the table could afford was placed before him if he would but delay on his ride long enough to partake of it. He was honored and beloved as he deserved, and aside from his professional skill was often called on to act in other capacities. It was he who was present at the birth of the first born, and ofteu at the birth of many following children, because in those days the family was large, and it was he who stood by when the last flicker of life went out from the wife and mother, his best skill could uot save, and closed her eyes and turned to console, as a friend and brother, the broken hearted and disconsolate husband left with a brood of small childreu to rear alone. Thus the pioueer doctor went on his daily and uightly rounds, year in aud year out, aud only an iron constitution, which so many of them seem to have had, withstood the wearyiug, grindiug experience. High was the character of the doctors, in the main, who were among the early settlers who came to Illinois and were such effective factors in advancing civilization, and they merit a special place in the history of every community.

FIRST PHYSICIAN IN CASS COUNTY.

The first physician to locate uear aud practice in Cass County, was Dr. Andrew Elder, who was born at Lexiugton, Ky., July 6, 1798. He attended the public schools of that city, and also Lexington College, from which institutiou he was graduated in 1820. He later entered the medical department of Transylvania Uuiversity, Lexington, aud ou March 9, 1823, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In the followiug spring he came with his father to Illiuois, aud located on a farm south of Old Princeton, in what was then Morgan Couuty. Iu 1826, Princeton, which is now one of the vanished and almost forgotten villages of the county, had reached such importance as to require a postoffice, and Eli Redding was appointed postmaster. Ou January 15, 1828, Dr. Elder married Miss Hannah Redding, daughter of the aforesaid postmaster. This is said to have been the first wedding of white people in the territory now comprising Cass Couuty. The doctor moved into the village of Princeton iu 1835, but later returued to the farm. Subsequently he sold the Morgan County farm and bought oue on section 18, township 17, rauge 9, in Cass County. After residing ou it for a while, he sold his farm, and buying another in the edge of Morgan County, moved to it with his family, continuing his practice as a country physician. In 1859, he sold his farm aud came back to Princeton, but only remained in that village until the following spriug, when he moved to Logan County, Ill. There, in the village of Williamsville, near the southern line of that county, he departed this life on March 6, 1872. His two sons, Charles and Ripley Elder, became preachers of the gospel, and were citizeus of this county many years.

OTHER EARLY PHYSICIANS.

Another early physician, Dr. Ephriam Rew, came to Beardstown iu 1829. He was boru in

Massachusetts in 1778. After a trip of six weeks on horseback in 1829, he reached Meredosia, in Morgan County, but finding there were already two physicians in that place, decided to go further. Learning of the Mound village, on up the Illinois River, he made his plans to locate there, and returning to his home, settled up his affairs, and once more came west, bringing his family with him. This time he landed at St. Louis, and taking a flatboat, loaded it with what goods and chattels he possessed, and with his family made a laborious trip of six weeks to Beardstown, in the same year it had been laid out. Dr. Rew was the first physician to practice his profession at Beardstown. He remained there for some time, and then purchased a farm on section 29, township 18, range 11, near the present site of Bluff Springs. Until his death, May 23, 1842, he continued to reside on this farm, managing his property while engaged in the practice of his profession. In 1846, his widow married (second) Benjamin Stribling, the father of Isaac Milton Stribling, now deceased, who was one of the largest landowners and wealthiest farmers of Cass County at the time of his demise. Dr. Rew was buried in the old cemetery which he had helped to establish, in the city of Beardstown. His daughter, Mrs. Cynthia A. McConnell, who was, for forty years, a resident of Virginia, is still living at the home of her son, Louis McConnell, in McCook, Neb.

FOUNDER OF CHANDLERVILLE.

Dr. Charles Chandler was the next physician of Cass County, and came as far as Beardstown in the spring of 1832, on a steamboat bound for Fort Clark on Lake Peoria, but the second Black Hawk war was then agitating the people and making it dangerous to travel very far to the north, so Dr. Chandler stopped off and after investigating the country, located near the mouth of Panther Creek, the present site of Chandlerville. He was born July 2, 1806, at Woodstock, Conn. He founded and laid out the present village of Chandlerville, where he lived and practiced his profession until his sudden death in 1879.

LAID OUT TOWN OF VIRGINIA.

Dr. Henry Hall was the first physician to locate at Virginia. He came to Illinois in 1833, and entered land, returning later, and in 1836 he laid out the town of Virginia, settling down there, where he remained until his death, in 1847.

Dr. Samuel McClure came to Cass County from Kentucky in 1834, and settled on land which he later made into an excellent farm. He laid claim to the southwest quarter of section 19, township 17, range 10, which he entered November 5, 1835. Dr. McClure belonged to that school of practice known as "botanic doctors," or "Tomsonians," but they were styled by physicians who regarded themselves as the "regular" profession, as "root and yerb" peddlers, therefore the right hand of good fellowship was not extended to Dr. McClure by the exclusive circle of "regulars," but nevertheless he was highly regarded as a man and citizen, even by the old school doctors. He was born in Woodford County, Ky., October 5, 1800. His father was a slave holder, in affluent circumstances, and gave his son a very liberal education. Before entering upon the practice of medicine, Dr. McClure taught school for several years. Then, having devoted his spare time to the study of medical books written by Dr. Thompson, the botanical theorist, he left the schoolroom, and began to put to a practical test the ideas he had been studying. On March 13, 1833, he married Miss Louisa Graff, a daughter of another well-to-do farmer of Woodford County, Ky., and the next spring they came to Illinois, making the trip in a wagon. The main reason for Dr. McClure leaving the south was his antipathy to slavery. Although he had been reared in the midst of slavery, his father owning a large number of slaves, the system was very obnoxious to him, and as it seemed impossible to remove slavery from the southern states, rather than live under its blight, he concluded to move to the free state of Illinois. During the winter of 1834-5, he taught school, and so continued during several following winters. The public school system had not then been introduced, and school teachers, competent or otherwise, were extremely scarce. Therefore Dr. McClure's advent and the opening of his winter school, were highly appreciated by the neighboring settlers. By patient toil and industry, and living a frugal, temperate life, Dr. McClure gained something more than a competence, and left to his children a splendid farm in a high state of cultivation, well improved and well stocked. He had abandoned practice several years prior to his death. Three children, two

daughters and one son, were born to Dr. and Mrs. McClure. The younger daughter, Ann Dúpuy McClure, was married November 10, 1859, to Robert Hall, a son of Dr. Henry Hall, the founder of the town of Virginia. Mrs. Hall died at her home in Virginia, July 24, 1892. Dr. McClure was one of the substantial, reliable men of Cass County, a good neighbor, and a supporter of churches, schools and all other agencies of modern civilization. His influence was always given to such movements as tended to better the conditions of society. On the farm where he devoted the best years of his life to hard toil, Dr. McClure died on August 27, 1865, aged sixty-four years, ten months and eight days.

DR. THOMAS POTHICARY.

The next physician to follow Dr. Henry Hall, in the new town on the prairie, was Dr. Thomas Pothicary, who, together with his wife and two small children, entered the village from the west, having landed from a steamboat at Beardstown, on the Illinois River, and from that thriving city, drove with an ox-team over the state road to the future capital of Cass County. Dr. Pothicary was born in Wilkeshire, England, April 21, 1797. His advent in the village was on July 4, 1836, but two months after Dr. Hall had platted a portion of the lands recently acquired from the government, into squares, streets, lots and alleys. There were but three houses in Virginia, when Dr. Pothicary and his family sought shelter from the broiling sun that hot July day. Where they stopped or where they lived during the succeeding year is unknown. The only record of the physician's early attempts to establish a home is found in the office of the recorder of deeds. There it appears that on September 11, 1837, Reddick Horn conveyed to him for a consideration of $68, lot 102 in the original town. That lot is the site of the King furniture store on the south side of the courthouse square. On that lot Dr. Pothicary began at once to erect a two-story frame building, which, when completed, he called a tavern. For many years Pothicary's Tavern was known far and wide. The stage coaches from Beardstown and from Springfield made it a stopping place. It is not known where he obtained the sawed lumber that went into the construction of the building, but presumably at Beardstown, thirteen miles distant, as this town at that time had a sawmill. Dr. Pothicary also kept a few standard drugs and medicines, and thus in embryo, was the first druggist of Virginia. The results from his sale of these medicaments together with the profits of tavern keeping and the remuneration received from a necessarily limited practice as a physician, brought him some little wealth. The records show that he bought and sold several lots in Virginia. It is said that Dr. Pothicary in religious affiliation, in early days of his life, was a Quaker. When he came to Virginia he was thirty-nine years old, and there being no church building of any sort, nor any religious society in existence there, nor for some time thereafter, he gave little expression to his views on any religious subject. He was, however, almost puritanical in his intolerance and abhorrence of vice and immorality in any form. He never used profanity, or vulgar language, and detested those who did, nor would he permit the use of such language in his tavern or in any place where he exercised control. He had the honor of entertaining the governor of the state for one night at his tavern. In 1845, the Mormon troubles were still agitating the people at Nauvoo, in Hancock County, and when they assumed larger proportions than the local authorities could handle, the state militia was called out. Governor Thomas Ford being advised of the difficulty, promptly called the militia to suppress the belligerents. Emulating the example of one of his predecessors, Governor John Reynolds in the Black Hawk war, he placed himself at the head of a company of soldiers and marched westward from Springfield, the capital, until the sun was out of sight behind the Pothicary tavern, when he and his command halted in the town of Virginia, and the infantry went to camp on the Public Square, and the artillery on the brow of the hill about on the present site of the Christian church. The Governor, however, did not camp with the private soldiers, but established his headquarters at the Pothicary tavern, where, after a satisfying hearty supper, such as the hospitable doctor-landlord would naturally prepare and set before his distinguished guest, the Governor began talking. Then occurred an incident which well illustrates the characteristics of the doctor. The Governor, it is said, was, under certain conditions, addicted to the use of language which did not meet with the approval of the landlord, who requested the Governor to refrain from the use of some expressions which offended him. Two versions are



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given of the incident. One is that the Governor resented the reproof, and asked Dr. Pothicary if he knew to whom he was speaking, reminding him that he was the Governor of Illinois, to which, according to the tradition, Dr. Pothicary replied that he would not permit him to use such language in his house, governor or no governor. The other version, as told to the writer by Hon. W. H. Weaver, of Petersburg, Ill., who says he was present and heard the conversation, was that when Dr. Pothicary requested the Governor to refrain from the use of such language, the official looked up in astonishment, but apparently realizing the error of his conduct, apologized to the doctor, and was about to retire, when another person, the Rev. W. H. Collins, who had stepped into the hotel to take a look at the distinguished visitor, began to lecture the chief executive, and the latter, smarting under his humiliation at the just rebuke from the landlord, looked squarely at the little preacher who was just about the size of the Governor, and, with withering scorn, intimated with emphatic language that it was none of his concern what he, the Governor, said, and turning on his heel went up to his room.

After the county seat had been removed to Beardstown, in 1845, and so many merchants of Virginia had gone to the new county seat or elsewhere, Dr. Pothicary remained at Virginia, for two years, when he, too, capitulated, and moved to Beardstown, where, down on Main street, near the river in that town, he conducted a tavern for about a year. He then returned to Virginia, and bought a farm near Sugar Grove, in township 17, range 9, containing 160 acres. There he and his family lived until 1849, when, on gold being discovered in California in such quantities as to excite the interest of the whole country, Dr. Pothicary, with a number of others from Virginia and its vicinity, went to California. He was not successful as a miner, and soon came back richer in experience only, and continued to live on his farm for thirty-two years. During the Civil war he was appointed provost marshal when it was deemed expedient to draft men into the service. He served his country faithfully and well during that trying period in that exacting position. No man, not even a Palestinian tax gatherer in the days of Herod, was so cordially hated as the provost marshal. However, Dr. Pothicary was not performing his duties along that line to receive the approbation of his fellow citizens, or to avoid their hatred. He was intensely patriotic towards his adopted land, and was doing all in his power, in his advanced age, to assist the federal government in its hour of sore distress. In 1870 Dr. Pothicary and his wife moved to Virginia, his family having in the meanwhile grown to maturity and married. There he purchased a lot in Stowe's Addition, built on it a comfortable house, and there they lived until July 23, 1878, when he died from the loss of blood from a wound inflicted by his own hand. He had reached the ripe age of eighty-one years, two months and twelve days, and was buried in the Robinson graveyard near his farm home. Thus passed away one of Cass County's unique characters, one who had been a peculiar and familiar figure in and about the central portion of Cass County for forty-two years.

Dr. Mahlon H. L. Schooley was born in Leesburg, Loudoun County, Va., December 12, 1812. There he received a common school education, and advanced sufficiently in learning to qualify for teaching school, in which work he engaged for several years. In 1837 he cast his fortune with the great wave of emigration that set towards Illinois, and with a number of others landed at Beardstown, in the spring of that year. He learned of the settlement on Panther Creek, up the Sangamon bottom, and of the generous, kindly Dr. Chandler, who had started that settlement, and so trudged on foot up to that point in Cass County. The young man found a place with Dr. Chandler, with whom he studied medicine for three years, and then, upon the advice of the good doctor, went to Virginia, Ill., in 1840. He soon acquired an excellent practice, and in the summer of 1841 was married to Catherine J. Gatton, a daughter of Thomas Gatton, one of the pioneers of Cass County, locating in it when it was still a portion of Morgan County. Dr. Schooley, after his marriage, bought two lots in the first addition to Virginia, which had a small frame house on them, and there he lived until he was attacked by the gold fever of 1849. In the meanwhile he had been presented as a candidate to the people by the Whig party for the office of county recorder, he being a hearty supporter of that party. Dr. Schooley was elected at the regular election in August, 1843, but a vote being taken in September of that same year on the county seat question, resulting in its removal to Beardstown, the doctor resigned his office when the records were removed two years later, as he

did not care to give up his practice as a physician, as he would have been obliged to do if he had followed them to Beardstown. He was an enterprising citizen, and engaged in a milling business with N. B. Beers, as has already been mentioned. In 1849 he closed out his business and in company with Dr. Pothicary, Joseph Cosner, John Buckley and others, went to California by way of New Orleans and the Isthmus of Panama. After spending a year in California, he returned to Cass County, but if he brought any great amount of gold back with him, he very carefully concealed the fact. He soon regained his practice, and his leadership in his community. When the company for the building of the Illinois River Railroad, afterwards called the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville Railroad, was formed, he was elected its secretary. Prospering, he soon built a very large and substantial residence on the lots he had formerly purchased. It is the property now known as the Samuel Petefish residence on west State street, and is yet regarded as one of the best in Virginia. The doctor, however, found his health failing, and so sold all his belongings in Cass County, and moved to Bath, in Mason County. There he remained for two years without any appreciable improvement in his health, so again selling, he went to Cass County, Mo., where, in 1877, he died at the age of sixty-five years and two days, having expired just two days after the anniversary of his birthday, December 12.

A PROMINENT PHYSICIAN AND CHEMIST.

Dr. Theodore A. Hoffman was born in Saxe-Altenburg, a district of Saxony, Germany, on November 9, 1808. He was thoroughly educated in the better schools of his native land during his youth, later being apprenticed to a prominent chemist of Neustadt, where, during his four years indenture, he became remarkably proficient and skillful. He attended for three years the University of Jena, an institution of wide reputation, his principal studies there being chemistry, botany, physiology and pharmacy. In 1829 he removed to Hamburg, and from that place, in May, 1831, he set sail for the United States, landing at New York in August of the same year. Settling at Brooklyn, N. Y., he there established a laboratory where the first artificial borax was manufactured in the country, the process being at that time known only in Germany; one year later went to Northampton, Pa., and associated himself with Dr. Wesselhoft, but moved from there to Philadelphia. In 1835 he visited St. Louis, and after a summer in that city, came to Beardstown, where he at once engaged in the practice of medicine, and also opened and conducted a small drug store. In 1847 he sold his drug store to Menke & Bro., and revisited Germany with his family, consisting of his wife and three children. On his return to America, he resided a year at St. Louis, but then came back to Beardstown, where he repurchased his drug store, and resumed his practice. Once more he sold the drug store to Menke & Bro., and opened an office at his residence, where, for a number of years, he devoted his attention to perfecting scientific methods. He received from the national government in 1858 a patent for the improved manufacture of dextrine, sugar, alcohol, etc. In 1866 he received a patent for a respirator, and in 1870, one for an aspirator, designed to prevent the overheating of bulk grain, etc., for which he received a diploma at the St. Louis Fair of 1871. Again, in 1872, he received a patent for the improvement in the generation of ozone, as a remedy for diseases of the respiratory organs. Dr. Hoffman was married in September, 1839, to Lucia E. Menke, and he died at Beardstown, June 30, 1890, at the age of eighty-one years, seven months and twenty-one days.

Dr. Frederick Ehrhardt, another highly educated German, who came to Cass County in an early day, was born at Grund, in the Hartz Mountains, in southern Hanover, Germany, on March 15, 1817. He received an excellent early school training in his home schools, and when twenty-one years of age, in 1838, he entered Gottingen University in the Kingdom of Hanover, from which he was graduated in 1842, and then passed a state or government examination, in which he received the highest honors of his class. Two years later he determined to cast his fortunes with the American republic, and after an interesting trip in a sailing vessel, he arrived at Baltimore, Md., where he remained practicing his profession, thinking for a time that he would make that city his permanent home. Many Germans coming to this country, however, had gone to more western states, especially to Missouri. St. Louis attracting them, as it then had prospects of becoming the great metropolis of the West, and after two years at Baltimore, Dr. Ehrhardt took a stage trip over the Alleghenies to the Ohio River, and went by boat to St. Louis.

There he was establishing himself fairly well in practice, when he received from an old schoolmate of Gottingen University, a pressing invitation by letter to come to Beardstown, glowing accounts being painted of the future of the little village on the Illinois River. Yielding to importunities, he therefore came to Beardstown in 1847, and at once began the practice of medicine. Two years later, in January, 1849, he was united in marriage at Beardstown, to Miss Caroline Havecluft, a daughter of one of the very earliest pioneer settlers of Cass County. Dr. Ehrhardt was a man of broad education, of a scientific mind, and thoroughly schooled in the knowledge of materia medica. A man of very studious habits, he was yet sociable and companionable in his intercourse with his fellow men, and a highly esteemed resident of Beardstown for many years. He died in that city in November, 1881, and his wife on October 10, 1911. One son, Dr. Henry Ehrhardt, resides at Beardstown, where he has been a successful medical practitioner for many years.

Another of the early settlers of Cass County in the medical profession was Dr. Harvey Tate, who came to the county in 1841. He was born February 20, 1810, in Miami County, Ohio, and there studied medicine and practiced for about ten years, when he came to Beardstown. From that place he drove over the rough roads to within three miles of Virginia, and there settled, remaining for a short time, and during that period practiced his profession, then moved to Virginia, and soon securing a lucrative practice, continued a resident of that town the remainder of his life, except for a brief period when he lived at Nauvoo, and one season when he traveled in eastern states, hoping the change would prove beneficial to his wife's health. Dr. Tate held several of the town offices, and was at one time county superintendent of the public schools of Cass County. He died at his home in Virginia, June 21, 1891, at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

Other physicians came to Beardstown and Virginia at an early day, but little can be learned of them, except that they were well educated and highly trained in their profession. They became highly respected residents of the county, who lent their aid in every way to secure an uplifting of the communities in which they located. In 1834, there were at Beardstown the following physicians: Drs. Christ, Hochstetter, Owen M. Long, and J. C. Smith. Between that time and 1848, came Drs. V. A. Turpin, Charles Sprague, C. C. Emmerick and George Van Ness, and perhaps others came, but, remaining for only a short time, have slipped from the memory of the old residents. Dr. Charles A. Hathwell came to Jersey Prairie and located about a half mile east of Princeton. Later he moved into Virginia, where he divided the practice with Dr. Rufus S. Lord, Dr. Conn and Dr. Stockton. Dr. Charles E. Lippincott, another early physician, located at Chandlerville in 1849. Dr. Samuel Christy came to Beardstown in 1849, and after practicing and conducting a drug store there until 1852, moved on a farm which he purchased, in Lancaster (now Philadelphia) Precinct. There he gained an extensive country practice, and when a postoffice was established in the precinct, he became the first postmaster. While there he was also elected to the legislature. Further mention is made of Dr. Christy in another chapter.

Dr. David M. Logan was born in Belmont County, Ohio, January 4, 1821. When he reached his majority he was graduated in medicine, and located at Newmanville, Cass County, in 1859. He continued in the hard, toilsome country practice until 1889, when he moved to Ashland, but his health having given way, he went to live with an elder brother in Boone County, Iowa, where he died July 14, 1900, aged seventy-nine years. His body was brought back to Cass County and buried in the Newmanville cemetery. Drs. Charles Houghton and Charles S. Mathews were also practicing physicians at Newmanville. Dr. Mathews endured the hardships of country practice for a number of years. Dr. William G. Unland was born in Cass County, and was graduated in medicine. After practicing in several localities in this state, he finally settled in Beardstown, in 1880. Dr. Joseph Falonie was active in the medical profession at Beardstown prior to 1881. In that year an epidemic of smallpox occurred in that city, and Dr. Falonie, after ministering professionally to many of the afflicted, himself contracted the disease, and died from its effects, in April, 1881. Dr. Hans H. Littlefield was born at Wells, York County, Me., September 25, 1823. He located at Beardstown in 1848, but remained only for a short time, moving over into Schuyler County, later returned to Cass County, again locating at Beardstown in 1860, and made that city his home during the remainder of his life. He served for two years

as a surgeon in the Civil war. His death occurred at Beardstown June 26, 1903.

Dr. George W. Goodspeed was located in Old Princeton for a few years, but in 1859 moved to Virginia, where he purchased lots and built himself a comfortable residence, becoming identified with the growth of the city, and so continuing until late in life, when he moved to Colorado, and there died April 14, 1890. His remains were brought back to Virginia and buried in the beautiful Walnut Ridge cemetery which he had helped the city of Virginia to acquire and lay out. Dr. N. S. Reed came from Geauga County, Ohio, to Chandlerville in the spring of 1852. He was a young man and had just been graduated in medicine. Having some means which he desired to invest, and also desiring to secure a home and settle down to the practice of his profession, he purchased a tract of land near the village of Chandlerville, and provided himself with a comfortable home. He had a widely extended practice, and a great circle of friends and acquaintances who had learned to respect him very highly, when he died August 11, 1901, at his home in Chandlerville. His daughter, Mrs. Morse, still lives in the village of Chandlerville, of which place her son, Albert Morse, is the present mayor.

Dr. N. H. Boone, of Chandlerville, was born at Troup, Ga., June 6, 1836, and practiced medicine at various places prior to coming to Chandlerville in 1864. Here he has since resided, being engaged in an active practice until within a few years of the date of this writing, when he retired, having accumulated considerable wealth. Dr. John Francis Snyder came to Virginia in 1864, and soon acquired a very extended practice and retained it for about a half a century, when he voluntarily retired. He is so closely identified with the history of Cass County and of the state that nothing further need to be said here to acquaint the reader with one of the ablest physicians and surgeons of central Illinois. Dr. Watson W. Gailey was born in Pennsylvania, near Newcastle, in 1842, and came to Illinois, locating in the village of Prentice, Morgan County, in 1865. A short time later he moved into Ashland, a few miles north of Prentice, and resided there the remainder of his busy life. Dr. L. S. Allard was a resident physician of Virginia for several years before the Civil war. He organized a company and was enrolled in the Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the war. He then returned to Virginia, and later removed to Arkansas.

PHYSICIANS OF THE PRESENT TIME.

The foregoing, with perhaps some few exceptions of physicians who were in Cass County for but a short period, covers all who came in the first half of the county's existence. As the county increased in population, many other physicians came, some remained, and are still here, while others soon thereafter removed to different localities. The physicians residing and practicing in Cass County at the present time (1915) are the following: BEARDSTOWN—Drs. George W. Bey and his son Walter, T. J. Schweer, C. E. Soule, M. J. Palmer, Henry Ehrhardt, Roy H. Garm, Charles E. Soule, Thomas G. Charles, W. G. Unland and J. F. Jones. ASHLAND—Drs. J. A. Glenn, D. S. Gailey, D. Lyons and W. S. Taylor. CHANDLERVILLE—Drs. N. H. Boone, Howard B. Boone, John G. Franken and G. Eversole. ARENZVILLE—Drs. J. M. Swope and A. F. Streuter. VIRGINIA—Drs. Charles M. Hubbard, A. R. Lyles, J. A. McGee, H. L. Day and W. R. Blackburn. NEWMANVILLE—Dr. R. C. Clifford.

The corps of physicians in active practice in Cass County numbers as able, intelligent and conscientious men as are to be found in any community in the state. Their activities in life are not limited to the lines of their chosen profession, but they are to be found in the front ranks of the supporters of schools, churches, and every movement projected for the elevation of society and the promotion of the general welfare of the particular community in which they live.

CASS COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

In 1906 a medical association of the county was formed taking in almost all the resident physicians. It has been maintained to the present time and holds monthly meetings, at which the various phases of diseases and the latest discoveries and usages in treatment are discussed. Frequently lectures or addresses are given, or papers are read, of a high scientific character, and are extremely interesting and instructive to the medical fraternity, and thereby beneficial to their patients.



Henry Cunningham

CHAPTER XX.

BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

IMPROVED BANKING LAWS—MORE SECURITY—FEDERAL RESERVE LAW—NO MORE WILDCAT BANKING—PRESENT STATE RESTRICTIONS—EARLY OPERATIONS IN CASS COUNTY—BANKING AT BEARDSTOWN—BEARDSTOWN BANKING COMPANY—CASS COUNTY BANK—FIRST STATE BANK—THE BEARDSTOWN STATE BANK—THE PEOPLES BANK—BANKING AT ARENZVILLE—THE PEOPLES BANK—THE FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK—BANKING AT CHANDLERVILLE—STATE BANK—PEOPLES STATE BANK—BANKING AT VIRGINIA—CENTENNIAL NATIONAL BANK—PETEFISH, SKILES & CO.—FARMERS NATIONAL BANK—BANKING AT ASHLAND—SKILES, REARICK & CO.—FARMERS STATE BANK—OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

IMPROVED BANKING LAWS.

The financial standing of any community depends largely upon the stability and integrity of its banking institutions. The banking laws of the state of Illinois were not, until rather late in its existence as a state, of such a character that the mere fact of the institution being a banking firm or corporation was any evidence of the financial stability of the concern. But later legislation under the stringent provisions of the constitution of 1870, and the present federal banking laws, though not as perfect as might be desired, have placed safeguards around the banking business, so that persons who become depositors, or have dealings with well founded banks now may feel comparatively secure. The days of "wildcat" banking are passed forever in this state. The people will no longer submit to anything of the character in that line we had prior to the constitution of 1870. The salient features of our present organic state law upon that subject are: that no state bank shall hereafter be created, and the state shall not own or be liable for any stock for any banking company or corporation; that no law creating or authorizing any corporation with banking powers, or any amendment to such law shall go into effect until the same has been submitted to and approved by vote of the people; that every stockholder in such institutions shall be individually responsible and liable to its creditors over and above the amount of stock held by him or her, to an amount equal to his or her respective shares so held, for all its liabilities accruing, while he or she remains such stockholder; that the suspension of specie payments by banking institutions on their circulation created by the laws of this state, shall never be permitted or sanctioned.

EARLY OPERATIONS IN CASS COUNTY.

A period of fanatical internal improvement and the wild financiering and speculative craze that began in 1837, culminated in a financial crash in 1842 that precipitated many a bankruptcy and brought dire distress and ruin to thousands of honest men who found themselves without means to meet their obligations. In the rural districts money became so scarce that all business transactions were reduced to barter and exchange of commodities. To aid in local transactions, the merchants issued due bills to their customers, which passed current, at certain discount, where the parties issuing them were well known, and as has been casually mentioned heretofore in these pages, the county commissioners of Cass County attempted to come to the assistance of the people by providing for the issuance of county warrants that might be used as a medium of exchange. On March 10, 1842, at the March term of the county commissioners' court of Cass County, it was ordered by the court that Henry H. Hall, who founded Virginia, be appointed to procure a suitable plate of steel, copper or some other suitable metal, for engraving notes to be issued as county warrants for the county of Cass, and state of Illinois, and that he procure a supply of blanks for the present use. The county commissioners at that time were: John C. Scott, Marcus Chandler and William H. DeHaven. Nothing further seems to have been done about the matter, and no person living seems to remember that any such notes were ever in circulation. Recently, however, some of the old blank warrants were found. They bear no date, but are printed from an excellent steel engraving in very artistic design, in the similitude of one dollar bills. A renewed search of the ancient records, page by page, they not being indexed, revealed the following fact concerning the plate and notes. In

the record of the proceedings of the county commissioners' court of June 8, 1844, appears the following:

"It is ordered that Henry H. Hall be notified to deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the county commissioners' court, at their July called term, to be held on the third Friday in July, 1844, the steel plate for striking Cass County orders, and all blank orders in his possession." The records of the proceedings of the July called meeting of the commissioners makes no mention of the subject. The legislature had invalidated all such warrants or orders, and forbidden any municipality to issue any such. It is presumed the commissioners got back their plate and blank warrants, and thought it was unnecessary to say so in the record, as the people of Cass County did not receive the benefits intended by the accommodating county commissioners.

BANKING AT BEARDSTOWN.

No regular banking institution appears to have been organized in Cass County prior to 1855 or 1856. There was, however, some banking or bankers' property subject to listing in 1857. The state auditor's report for 1857 shows in the list of bankers' property that Cass County had $3,000 worth of property. James C. Leonard was a private banker in 1860, at Beardstown, but failed in 1866.

The Beardstown Banking Company was incorporated in 1869, by act of legislature approved March 30 of that year, with a capital stock of $100,000. The incorporators were: James C. Leonard, John A. Ames, Edward B. Leonard, George H. Nolte, Herman Engelbach, Martin L. Read, Franklin A. Hammer, Frederick Ehrhardt, Henry T. Foster and Chauncey Rice. The name, John A. Ames, is probably an error in print, and most probably is intended for John A. Arenz. This institution was organized and conducted as a bank until about 1875, when the Cass County Bank was organized. It opened for business in 1876 with Abner Foster as president. In 1878 Frank A. Hammer was elected president. The Cass County Bank continued in business until 1888, when it was succeeded by the First State Bank.

The First State Bank of Beardstown was organized December 24, 1888, and a charter from the state of Illinois was granted February 26, 1889, to conduct a banking business under the laws of the state of Illinois, according to an act passed shortly before that time, permitting banks to be incorporated by the state. The first board of directors elected to serve this bank consisted of the following well known men: Adolph F. Sielschott, William Huppers, Philip Kuhl, Anton Rink, John W. Newburne, Henry Ehrhardt and Henry Garm. On January 12, 1889, Adolph F. Sielschott was elected president of the corporation; Henry Garm, vice president; and T. L. Mathews, cashier. The bank was then located at No. 114 Main street, in Beardstown, which place was occupied as a bank office until June 2, 1896, when the bank, in connection with Cass Lodge No. 23, A. F. & A. M., purchased the building of William Huppers on the corner of Main and State streets, which they occupied until 1914, when they moved to their present quarters on the corner of State and Second streets. This building was erected by the bank during 1913 and 1914, and was opened on June 2 of the latter year. The present location is a prominent corner in the business district of Beardstown. The bank building is of dark, hollow, Bedford stone on the exterior. The interior is finished in Sienna marble, with Heautville marble trimmings. The vault is particularly well protected and constructed in every way looking to the safety of the bank, and the entire interior decorations and equipment are of the most modern pattern, as well as the building itself, and Beardstown feels that it has one of the most modern banking buildings in central Illinois. The stockholders are certainly to be congratulated upon such a fine building and location and the increased volume of business it is bringing them justifies the expenditure. On March 1, 1892, T. L. Mathews resigned as cashier of the bank and Malcolm H. Wallace was elected but resigned on May 25, 1892, when R. H. Garm was elected and filled the position continuously until January 1, 1915, when he was elected president of the bank. H. M. Schmoldt had succeeded A. F. Sielschott as president, on April 2, 1895, and continued to act as such until his death in June, 1908, when Werner Stenernagel was elected and he served until he was succeeded by Mr. Garm, in 1915. Henry Garm served as vice president of the bank from the time of its organization until his death in 1899, when he was succeeded by William Huppers, and when he died, in 1909, was succeeded by Phil Kuhl, who continued as vice president until January 1, 1915, when Thomas V. Brannan was elected vice president. The present board of

directors consists of the following members: R. H. Garm, president; T. V. Brannan, vice president; A. H. Krohe, Philip Kuhl, Werner Steuernagel, E. L. Oetgen and William P. Beatty. The bank when originally organized commenced business with a capital stock of $25,000. On July 1, 1896, this was increased to $50,000, and on April 11, 1904, it was further increased to $100,000. The capital and surplus is now $200,000, the surplus being equal to the capital, and was attained in 1911.

The Beardstown State Bank was organized April 2, 1910, under the state laws of Illinois, with a capital stock of $50,000, and surplus of $10.000 fully paid up. The incorporators were: H. W. Hackman, E. H. Kinney and E. T. Hunter. The bank opened for business December 19, 1910, with the following officers and directors: Charles F. Johnson, president; H. W. Hackman, vice president; E. H. Kinney, cashier; E. T. Hunter, assistant cashier; and Charles F. Johnson, H. W. Hackman, E. H. Kinney, J. W. Albright, C. E. Williamson, Thomas R. Williams and William Huppe, directors. The bank building was erected in 1910 at a cost of $40,000, and is owned by the vice president, H. W. Hackman. It is a handsome building of vitrified brick, artistically finished on the interior, and is located on the corner of Washington and Second streets, across from the Park Hotel, one of the central locations. The present officers are: Charles F. Johnson, president; H. W. Hackman, vice president; E. T. Hunter, cashier; William H. Huppe, Charles F. Johnson, H. W. Hackman, Thomas R. Williams, B. E. Peck, J. L. Long and E. T. Hunter, directors. This bank has had a remarkable growth since its organization, its total resources now being over $145,000, and with the co-operation of its 100 stockholders scattered throughout the entire community, substantial increase is predicted in the next few years.

The Peoples Bank of Beardstown was organized as a private bank in 1877, with John H. Harris as president, and Thomas K. Condit as cashier, and with the following board of directors: John H. Harris, John H. Hagener, William Jockisch, J. A. Arenz, and S. L. Calif. The capital stock was $10,000. The bank prospered and in 1882 increased its stock to $15,000. In 1888 the bank changed from a private bank to the First National Bank of Beardstown, and has steadily increased in business until it is now considered the strongest bank in the county. It has a capital stock of $100,000, and a surplus of $125,000. A report of the business of the bank at the close of business, March 4, 1915, shows resources of $1,182,335.08. This bank became a member of the Federal Reserve in 1914. The location of this institution is on the corner of Main and State streets, which is lot 1 of block 10 of the original town of Beardstown. This lot is owned by the bank, and in 1910 a new and modern building of handsome style of architecture was erected on this lot to replace the original one then standing. It is exceptionally well furnished with every modern convenience and device for absolute safety of deposits and valuables intrusted to its keeping. The building, fixtures and furniture are valued at $40,000. Thomas K. Condit has been cashier of the bank since its organization, and John H. Harris was its president from the organization of the bank until his death, March 4, 1911. He was succeeded by John Schultz, who still maintains that position. Upon the death of Henry C. Meyer, A. E. Schmoldt succeeded as vice president. Floyd M. Condit is the present assistant cashier. The board of directors is composed of the following: John Shultz, T. K. Condit, A. E. Schmoldt, Martin McDonough, George H. Kuhlman, William H. Deppe and J. T. Schweer.

BANKING AT ARENZVILLE.

The Peoples Bank of Arenzville was established about February 1, 1882, with A. J. Saylor as president, and Charles H. Condit as cashier. This bank continued as a private bank and a branch of the Peoples Bank of Beardstown, until about the time the parent bank was changed to the First National Bank of Beardstown, when it became the First National Bank of Arenzville. Charles H. Condit resigned as cashier after the change, and went to Winchester, Ill., where he is in a banking business. Then George Engelbach became cashier and is still serving. Herman Engelbach is the president and J. M. Swope is the vice president of this bank, which has a capital stock and surplus of $120,000, owns a substantial bank building, and enjoys a large patronage.

In 1910 the Farmers & Merchants State Bank was organized to be opened for business at Arenzville, and a charter granted August 31 of that year. A new bank building had been erected, and the bank began business with a capital stock of $25,000. William H. Witte is

the president, A. E. Crnm is the vice president, and John Theivagt is the cashier. The new bank has a large number of stockholders and there is every indication of its having a long and prosperons existence.

BANKING AT CHANDLERVILLE.

THE STATE BANK was chartered in 1903. The banking business of Chandlerville was started by Barr, Chandler & Company in October, 1871. H. T. Chandler was an active trader and needed a bank convenient to take care of his private business. Mr. Barr had been a practical banker, in business at one time at Jacksonville, and was induced to come to Chandlerville and take charge of the bank. The other, the third member of the firm, was Mrs. Emily (Chandler) Lippincott, wife of Gen. Charles E. Lippincott and a daughter of Dr. Chandler. As Mr. Barr did not appreciate the necessity of coming from Jacksonville every week to look after the bnsiness, and as his wife did not care to move to Chandlerville, in the spring he severed his connection with the bank, and Linns C. Chandler, a yonnger brother of H. T. Chandler, who had jnst been graduated from a Chicago college, was taken into the bank as assistant cashier. He soon decided, however, to engage in a law practice, and was elected state's attorney of Cass Connty in the fall of 1872, and his place was then filled by William K. Mertz. Mr. Mertz had been employed by George Plahn, a well remembered pioneer merchant of Beardstown, but had later gone to Bath in Mason Connty, to take charge of a branch store for Mr. Plahn. Mr. Chandler was recommended to secure the services of Mr. Mertz, and did so in 1872. The bank had, in the meanwhile, taken Gen. Lippincott in as a partner, the firm being Lippincott, Chandler & Co., and it was condncted under that name for three or four years, when, Gen. Lippincott retiring, the firm became H. T. Chandler & Co. In 1880 the bank was bonght by Samuel H. Petefish, George Conover, W. K. Mertz and Oswell Skiles, and was given the name of Petefish, Skiles & Mertz. Business was continued under that name for several years, when Mr. Petefish sold his interest, and the firm name was changed to Conover, Skiles & Mertz. It continued under that caption until December 8, 1903, when the bank was chartered under the state banking law, and opened for bnsiness January 1, 1904, as the STATE BANK OF CHANDLERVILLE. George Conover was elected president; J. G. Franken, vice president; and W. K. Mertz, cashier, with a capital stock of $50,000, and so continues to the present time. From the above record it appears that Mr. Mertz has been connected with the Chandlerville banking business and with the one institntion, for forty-three years. In that time he has been the trnsted financial agent for more of the people than any one man in the entire commnnity; a trust and confidence that has not always remnnerated him personally, but, notwithstanding the valnable time spent gratuitonsly for others, his business life has been an exceptional success. The bank has prospered from the time he took the management of it, and it is one of the most snbstantial financial institntions of Cass Connty.

A new bank was opened at Chandlerville, incorporated as the PEOPLES STATE BANK of Chandlerville. Its certificate of incorporation bears the date of Jannary 7, 1904, and the bank immediately began business with John C. Morse as president, William T. Pratt as cashier and Henry Leeper as assistant cashier. It has a capital stock of $25,000, and has been doing an excellent business, having among its stockholders and patrons some of the best bnsiness men of Chandlerville and the surrounding country.

BANKING AT VIRGINIA.

THE CENTENNIAL NATIONAL BANK of Virginia was organized in 1876. When the one hnndredth anniversary of the independence of the United States of America came around, and many and varied celebrations of the event were being held, some of the gentlemen of Virginia, Cass County, conceived the idea of making a permanent monument there to that great event, and caused the incorporation of a national bank, calling it the Centennial National Bank of Virginia. It was organized nnder the federal national banking law, and the organization was completed February 24, 1876, at which time the following directors were elected: A. G. Angier, John A. Petefish, Daniel Biddlecome, T. J. Crum, J. H. Bates, A. Struble, Robert Hall, W. L. Black and Thomas Dunaway. These directors met on Febrnary 28, 1876, and elected John A. Petefish, president; T. J. Crum, vice president; and John H. Wood, cashier. Its capital stock was $50,000. John H. Wood remained its cashier until June, 1878, when he resigned and on June 14 of that year, James B. Black, who had been



Harry L Day M.D.

county clerk of Cass County for a number of years and was still in office, was elected to fill the vacancy in the bank. He remained with the bank as cashier until his death, September 2, 1895. On September 10, 1895, Miss Kate Wilson was elected assistant cashier, a position she still fills, being one of the few women of the country so employed, and has been proved eminently trustworthy. From the time of the death of Mr. Black, the duties of cashier were performed by Miss Wilson and William Epler, the latter being president at that time, until May 1, 1896, when John J. Bergen was elected cashier, and began service immediately, and continued in that position until January 13, 1914, when he resigned, but remained with the bank for a few months more, assisting the new cashier, Henry McDonald, in becoming familiar with the business. The present officers are: W. L. Black, president; Daniel Biddlecome, vice president; Henry McDonald, cashier; and Kate Wilson and A. J. Coons, assistant cashiers. The bank owns its building, which is of brick construction, with red stone front and of handsome design. It occupies the east part of lot 103 of the original town, on the south side of the courthouse square. The bank has been very prosperous and joined the Federal Reserve bank under the federal banking law of 1913, on February 14, 1914.

BANKING AT ASHLAND.

In September, 1881, a private bank was established at Ashland, under the firm name of Skiles, Rearick & Co. The firm consisted of members of the firm of Petefish, Skiles & Co., of Virginia, with the addition of Walter S. Rearick, of Beardstown, who had been connected for some time with the Cass County Bank of Beardstown. The private bank opened for business in a room in the rear of a drug store at Ashland, and remained there until its own building was completed, and in December of that same year, took possession of the new quarters, on lots 12 and 13 of block 51 of the original town. This building served the bank adequately until 1909, when a new building was erected on the same grounds. It is handsomely fitted up, in modern style, and with every bank convenience. In 1905 this bank organized under the state banking law as a state bank, retaining the old name of Skiles, Rearick & Co. Mr. Rearick, who had been the cashier, and had had the general management of the business from the time of the original establishment of the bank, was elected president of the new state bank, and James J. Wyatt was elected cashier. These gentlemen still occupy these positions, and Eugene Clemmons is the assistant cashier. The volume of business done in and about Ashland made it imperative in a business way to have a banking establishment in its midst, and from the success of this concern, and the confidence reposed in the managers, the venture proves to have been a wise and opportune investment, and has been of special benefit to those engaged in extensive shipments of stock and grain from that point, as well as to the many and varied other business interests of the community.

The municipality of Ashland had grown to such an extent, and the business interests had so rapidly developed, that in 1905 it was deemed advisable to establish another bank. In August of that year the Farmers State Bank of Ashland was organized. Its certificate of incorporation bears date of August 25, 1905, and it immediately opened its doors to the public for business, with Fred C. Walbaum as president, and T. C. Richardson as cashier. The original capital stock of $30,000 was increased in June, 1906, to $50,000. The bank has a substantial building on lot 7 of block 62 on the corner of Hardin and Editor streets. Its ten years of business life is evidence that it is one of the permanent institutions of Ashland.

The Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Virginia, by an act of the legislature of Illinois, was chartered by John McHenry, J. M. Epler, George Conover, Philip Buraker, George Virgin, John H. Tureman and Samuel Petefish. They were authorized to open books for subscription of stock, but nothing appears to have been done, at least no such bank was ever opened at Virginia. In the next year, 1870, a private bank was established under the firm name of Petefish, Skiles & Co., the firm consisting of Samuel H. Petefish, Ignatius Skiles and Jacob Epler. Business was begun at Virginia with Richard Elliott in charge as cashier. After the first year Mr. Epler retired, and George Virgin was admitted to the firm. In September, 1872, Mr. Elliott resigned as cashier and the bank was placed in charge of Edward T. Oliver. In April, 1873, Ignatius Skiles died, but his interests in the bank were looked after by his administrator until September, 1875, when Oswell Skiles, his brother, was admitted as a member of the firm.

In 1876 Mr. Virgin retired and the firm became S. H. Petefish, Oswell Skiles, Edward T. Oliver, William Campbell and George Crum. This association continued for a number of years, when Mr. Oliver withdrew, moving to Springfield, Ill., and George Conover was made cashier. In 1886 Matt Yaple went from the Centenial National Bank, where he had been bookkeeper, to the Petefish, Skiles & Co. Bank and later became its assistant cashier. On September 24, 1902, a charter was granted from the state of Illinois, under the state banking laws, to S. H. Petefish, L. A. Petefish, Matt Yaple and Oswell Skiles, incorporating the bank as PETEFISH, SKILES & Co. The stockholders elected George Conover, president; and Matt Yaple, cashier. Mr. Conover served as president until 1904, when Oswell Skiles was elected to that office and continued until his death in 1908. L. A. Petefish was elected to succeed Mr. Skiles, and served until 1912, when M. L. Crum was made president, and so continues. L. A. Petefish is vice president, Matt. Yaple is cashier, and George H. Widmayer and Ignatius Yaple are assistant cashiers. The bank has a capital stock of $60,000, and has been one of the most successful and substantial banking institutions of the county. During all the years of its existence, until removal to the new building, the bank occupied the building on lot 72, original town of Virginia, on the corner of Front and Beardstown streets. On January 1, 1910, the bank opened the doors of its new building on the opposite corner of the street, on lot 107 of the original town, which was erected by the bank expressly for the purpose of a banking house. It is a splendid structure of stone and brick, handsomely finished and decorated on the interior, and is fitted with modern improvements and safety deposit vaults.

THE FARMERS NATIONAL BANK of Virginia was organized in 1865, with S. S. Vance as its first president, Henry H. Hall as its first vice president, and John H. Wood its first cashier. The first board of directors was composed of the following men: S. S. Vance, Henry H. Hall, L. M. Stribling, William Stevenson, John A. Petefish, N. M. Thompson, and A. G. Angier. At first the bank had a capital stock of $50,000, with a circulation of $45,000, but later increased the stock to $150,000 and the circulation to $145,000. Subsequently the capital stock was reduced to $50,000. In 1876 Mr. Wood resigned as cashier, and J. T. Robertson was elected to fill that position and retained it until 1912. Henry H. Hall was elected president of the bank in 1867, and the other presidents in succession have been: A. G. Angier, John A. Petefish, John Robertson, George Virgin, Z. W. Gatton and Henry S. Savage, the last named, elected in 1912, still being in office. The other officials are: James Maslin, vice president; R. C. Taylor, cashier; and V. E. Robertson and Frank Robertson, assistant cashiers. The directors are: H. S. Savage, R. C. Taylor, James Maslin, Deterick Brockhouse, V. E. Robertson. In 1874 the bank built a brick structure on the southwest corner of the public square, on lot 106. It was a two-story building with banking house below, on the ground floor, and office rooms above. On August 27, 1897, at the time of the disastrous fire at Virginia, this building was totally destroyed. The bank immediately contracted for a new building, and within a year was again within its own property, which is a handsome structure of brick with a red stone front, containing banking rooms of modern design and equipment below, and office rooms above. This bank was the first national bank to organize and do business in Cass County, and has been exceedingly prosperous. It joined the Federal Reserve banks in 1914, under the new federal reserve bank law.

On June 23, 1874, a certificate of incorporation was issued for the Cass County Bank, to do a banking business at Virginia, to J. N. Reece, L. E. Johnston and J. W. Johnston, but no such bank was ever opened in the county, although there was a Cass County Bank at Beardstown for a number of years. There is nothing to indicate that the two had any connection. The capital stock was to be $100,000, and the bank was to open for business June 25, 1874.

OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Other financial institutions of the county are principally building and loan associations. There are three of these at Beardstown, namely: the Beardstown Building and Loan Association, the Homestead Building and Loan Association, and the Mutual Loan and Savings Association.

The building and loan association at Virginia operates under the name of the Virginia Building and Savings Association.

The Ashland building and loan association operates under the name of the Ashland Building, Savings and Loan Association.

Chandlerville has a similar concern which does business as the Chandlerville Building and Loan Association.

These associations were organized soon after the law was enacted permitting such organization, and have been very prosperous and successful. They have been instrumental, more than any other institutions, in helping the wage earners to secure for themselves and families comfortable homes on the most liberal and generous terms.

CHAPTER XXI.

PUBLIC UTILITIES.

EARLY RAILROAD PROJECTS—FIRST RAILROAD IN 1859—ILLINOIS RIVER RAILROAD COMPANY—PEORIA, PEKIN & JACKSONVILLE—LOCATION OF DEPOT AN INTENTIONAL INCONVENIENCE TO VIRGINIA—TWO EARLY STAGE LINES—DRIVER OF SPRINGFIELD STAGE CARRIES FIRST NEWS OF LINCOLN'S ASSASSINATION TO VIRGINIA—WABASH, ST. LOUIS & PACIFIC RAILROAD—CHICAGO, PEORIA & ST. LOUIS—PANA, SPRINGFIELD & NORTHWESTERN—SPRINGFIELD & ILLINOIS SOUTHEASTERN—OHIO & MISSISSIPPI—BALTIMORE & OHIO SOUTHWESTERN—OTHER PROJECTED RAILROADS—BEARDSTOWN & PETERSBURG—UPPER & LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER—ROCK ISLAND & ALTON—ROCKFORD, ROCK ISLAND & ST. LOUIS—FIRST TRAIN OUT OF BEARDSTOWN IN SUMMER OF 1870—NOW A PART OF THE CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY—ST. LOUIS, ROCK ISLAND & CHICAGO DIVISION—ST. LOUIS, JACKSONVILLE & CHICAGO—CHICAGO & ALTON RAILROAD—FINE SHIPPING POINT AT ASHLAND—PUBLIC HIGHWAYS—STATE ROAD—OLD HALFWAY HOUSE—PLANK ROAD OVER SAND RIDGES—STATE EXPERIMENTAL ROAD LAW—SOME PROGRESS MADE—STAGE LINE MISSED AFTER FORTY YEARS—NEW LEXINGTON—ARCADIA—OLD BEARD FERRY—BEARDSTOWN BRIDGE COMPANY—STEEL BRIDGE ERECTED—A FEW CONCRETE STRUCTURES — FIRST TELEGRAPH LINE — TELEPHONE LINE IN 1896—BELL COMPANY—CASS COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY—A FEW PRIVATE LINES.

EARLY RAILROAD PROJECTS.

The first railroad to enter Cass County was secured through the efforts of Dr. Charles Chandler, Hon. R. S. Thomas and Dr. M. H. L. Schooley of Cass County, and Judge William Thomas, of Jacksonville, Morgan County. In 1853, Hon. James M. Ruggles of Bath, in Mason County, represented the counties of Mason, Menard and Sangamon in the state senate. That legislature, or the people back of it, seemed to have a mania for incorporating railroads, whether there was any immediate prospect of the building of the roads or not. Everybody seemed to want a charter for building a railroad, and the legislature was willing, and it appears gave a charter to every body of men that asked for one. The Eighteenth General Assembly convened at Springfield, January 3, 1853, and adjourned February 14 the same year, being in session forty-three days. In that short time it passed thirty-seven acts granting charters to companies for building a railroad, and if Sundays are deducted from the total days in session, it will leave an equal number of legislative days and railroad charters granted. Among the charters granted was one secured by Mr. Ruggles, February 11, 1853, for the building of a railroad from Jacksonville, in Morgan County, through Virginia in Cass County, and Bath in Mason County, to Pekin in Tazewell County, and thence through Lacon in Marshall County, to La Salle in La Salle County, and to be known as the Illinois River Railroad Company. Cass County was represented in the lower house of the assembly by Hon. Cyrus Wright, Baptist preacher, who, no doubt, voted for the measure, as he made his home in and near Chandlerville. The capital stock of the company was fixed at $1,000,000, but might be increased to $2,000,000. James M. Ruggles was one of the incorporators, but no Cass County person appears to have been at that time directly interested. The right of way was secured from Pekin to Bath, and about $100,000 of the stock subscribed, and there the project stopped. The incorporators had not organized but had only opened books for the sale of the stock and made efforts to secure the right of way. It seemed as if the road were built at all it would terminate at Bath. It was then that the Cass County people mentioned above took hold of the matter and assisted in securing the right of way through the northern part of Cass County to Virginia, and also ob-

tained additional subscriptions for the stock. It was not until September, 1857, that they were ready to formally organize. In that month the interested parties met at Chandlerville and organized a company by electing Jndge William Thomas, of Morgan County, R. S. Thomas of Cass County, J. M. Ruggles and Francis Low of Mason Connty, and Joshua Wagonseller of Tazewell County, directors. The directors met immediately and completed the organization by electing Hon. Richard S. Thomas, president; Dr. M. H. L. Schooley, secretary; and Thomas Plasters, treasnrer; all of Cass County.

FIRST RAILROAD IN 1859.

The road was finished and opened from Pekin to Virginia in 1859, thus giving the prodncts of Cass County a new market at Peoria, and a direct connection from that point on to Chicago and the East. The new railroad magnates of Virginia and Cass County did not enjoy their distinction for any great length of time. The road had been mortgaged for rolling stock and material, and for other expenses attendant upon its completion, as its charter provided it might be, but when the notes began to fall due there was no money in the treasury with which to meet the indebtedness. As a consequence, in October, 1863, the mortgage was foreclosed and the Illinois River Railroad Company, one of the few roads to be built out of the great nnmber chartered, was a thing of the past.

THE PEORIA, PEKIN & JACKSONVILLE RAILROAD.

In 1864 the road went into the hands of a new company, called the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville Railroad and the rnral wits immediately dubbed it the "Push, Pull & Jerk" road. In 1869 the road was extended to Jacksonville. A proposition had been snbmitted to the people of township 17 north, range 10 west, in Cass County, to vote a tax for $15,000 of honds to assist in securing the right of way through the remainder of Cass County, hnt the voters wonld not consent to the tax, and the measure was defeated. This offended the railroad people, and they blamed the citizens of Virginia especially for the result, so when they completed the road, they deflected the right of way from the line over which it was originally intended to pass through the town of Virginia, and turned it straight down the section line, thns missing the town hy a qnarter of a mile or so, and placed their depot far ont beyond the corporate limits to the northeast. It is told that a traveling man once asked a Virginia hoy why they put the depot away out there. The boy declared: "So it would be near a railroad." The traveler moved on and it is not known whether the boy later got into the legislature or a reform school. The city has spread out in that direction since then and the depot does not now appear so inconveniently remote. The freight track which extends to the Savage elevator, was the original main track, in fact was all the track for a long period. There was not even a "Y" to turn the engine, and it was rnn backward to Bath, until the inconvenience was relieved hy the building of a tnrntable which was located on what is now Duncan avenue, a little south of the right of way of the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad. The writer, with other hoys, many times enjoyed the novel experience of assisting to turn the tahle that reversed the great, big, wonderful engine. The depot was a very small frame box of an affair, and located south of where the elevator now stands, hut on the west side of the track. There was hut one train on the road for a long time, which made a daily round trip from Pekin. In 1865 its schednle time to arrive was abont 11:00 A. M. It had a habit, however, of coming in whenever it saw fit, a hahit which the passenger train due to arrive about that time, still adheres to. There was no other carrier of passengers or mail into or through Virginia at that time except the two stage lines from Jacksonville and Springfield to Beardstown. They usually arrived ahont the same time as the railroad train.

THE SPRINGFIELD STAGE BRINGS SAD NEWS.

On the morning of Saturday, April 15, 1865, the stage from Springfield reached the old Dunaway Hotel, which it made its stopping place, a little earlier than usual. The manner in which the driver cracked his whip over the four horses and urged them with all speed up the hill from the Clear Creek hridge east of town, indicated that he had something more than ordinary in the way of passengers or news. He proved to be the hearer of the horrihle tidings of the assassination of President Lincoln. The word spread rapidly and great excitement prevailed, but the boys who had gathered to go out "to



Edward Dick



Mamie Dick

see the train come in" and ride on the turntable, were not so deeply impressed with the seriousness of the situation until they saw the train coming up to the little old station, with the engine heavily draped in black and white, in mourning for the dead president. Everyone, passengers and employes, seemed sorrowful and depressed, and were either silent or spoke in low tones as though the body of the president was aboard the train and they feared to disturb his repose. President Lincoln was well known personally by every employe and officer of the railroad. The great man, the old neighbor and friend of these people, had breathed his last at 7:22 A. M., in the city of Washington, and this public manifestation of mourning by draping the engine with the insignia of death within a few hours of Mr. Lincoln's death, was but the beginning of a pageantry of mourning from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the like of which had never been seen or heard of in the history of this country. It was continuous from that day until the fourth day of May, when he was laid to rest in the beautiful Oak Ridge Cemetery, at Springfield. The sight of the engine draped as it was, was an awe-inspiring one to the boys, and only a few of the older ones approached the engine on the turn table to help to reverse it that morning.

CHICAGO, PEORIA & ST. LOUIS RAILROAD.

The road continued under the management and name of the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville Railroad until 1879, when another mortgage foreclosure turned it into the hands of the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railroad. In a few years this road also defaulted and a receiver was appointed. In 1887 the road was reorganized under the name of the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis Railroad, which name, with a great struggle, it has borne ever since. From 1890 until about 1896, there were two through passenger trains daily each way between St. Louis and Chicago, and trains from Peoria to Jacksonville each way. A number of freight trains were also run and passenger and shipping facilities were excellent. There are but two local trains each way now from Jacksonville to Havana, where they connect with the main line for Peoria and Springfield.

BALTIMORE & OHIO SOUTHWESTERN RAILROAD.

The Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad in Cass County was originally chartered in 1867, as the Pana, Springfield & Northwestern, but before the work was done west of Springfield it was consolidated with the Illinois & Southeastern Railroad, under the name of the Springfield & Illinois Southeastern Railroad. The road was built and opened for traffic in March, 1871, extending from Beardstown to Shawneetown. In 1873 it went into the hands of a receiver, the fate of most railroads in those days, and in 1874 was sold under foreclosure proceedings, and March 1, 1875, passed into the hands of the Ohio & Mississippi, which had been incorporated in 1851. In 1893 it was consolidated with the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad, and has been under that name and management ever since. The people of Cass County for eighteen years had known and done business with the road under the name of the Ohio & Mississippi, and it was difficult for them to get used to the change in name. The road has now three passenger trains daily each way from Beardstown to the eastern terminus, with direct connections with the Baltimore & Ohio, being under the same management, for Washington and New York. Very excellent service, both passenger and freight, is rendered the public by this road. Jesse Neer, the division passenger agent of the line, now residing at Springfield, Ill., was for a number of years a most efficient and accommodating local agent and resided at Virginia. The road has little more than twenty-five and three-quarter miles of main track and six and eight-tenths miles of side track in the county. It starts from Beardstown in section 14, township 18, range 12, west, and runs southeasterly through the following villages and cities in which it has stations: Bluff Springs, Cass, Virginia, Burlingame, Philadelphia, Gurney and Ashland, passing out of the county from the southeast quarter of section 28, township 17 north, range 8 west, into Sangamon County.

OTHER PROJECTED RAILROADS.

The same session of the legislature that granted the charter for the Illinois River Railroad, gave two other charters to companies including some Cass County residents. On February 11, 1853, a charter for the Beardstown & Petersburg Railroad was granted to Amos Dick, Dr. Charles Sprague, Dr. V. A. Turpin, E. R. Sanders and Dr. Charles Chandler, and others from other counties. The road was to be built from Beardstown, down the Sangamon river

bottom, and then across to Petersburg, taking in Chandlerville. This would have been a splendid route for a railroad, and very beneficial to the farmers along the Sangamon valley, but it was never constructed, not even any stock being subscribed, as far as known. Another charter was also granted to some Cass County people and others, incorporating the Upper & Lower Mississippi River Railroad. Among these incorporators were Dr. Charles Sprague and Dr. V. A. Turpin, enterprising physicians, who were residents of Beardstown. The road was to be constructed from Jacksonville to Rock Island, by way of Beardstown, Rushville, McComb and Monmouth. Nothing was done with this proposed line, and it remained for the next incorporation running a line through Cass, to at least make a beginning, though the subscribers to the stock would rather, a little later on, that this road had gone the way of the previous one. But Drs. Sprague and Turpin were not content with battling, quite successfully, with the greenhead flies and the miasma of the Illinois river bottom, but sought something which promised more remuneration for their labors, and relief from the dreary, monotonous round with pillbox and lancet. Their next venture in the railroad line was the incorporation of the Rock Island & Alton Railroad. A charter was granted by the legislature February 15, 1855. Among others from Cass were: John Webb, Horace Billings, David Burlington and S. D. Skillings. The road was authorized to be laid out and constructed from Rock Island to McComb, thence to Rushville, thence to Beardstown, thence to Winchester, and from there to Whitehall in Greene County. The capital stock was to be $3,000,000, and might be increased to $5,000,000. A great amount of stock was subscribed for this road by people of Cass County, and there was a provision that counties through which the road might pass might become subscribers for stock and issue bonds to pay for the same. Subscriptions were made to this enterprise, and also to other railroad schemes, by the county and by private persons, amounting to over $150,000.

In 1856 grading was begun through the town of Beardstown and through the county south of Arenzville, and up the hill beyond Arenzville into Morgan County. One of the chief engineers was Ira Merchant, well known and well remembered as a resident of Beardstown, a brother-in-law of Thomas Finney, so long circuit clerk of Cass County. It is worthy of note that the line of survey which his engineering skill selected for the grade up the big hill beyond Arenzville, is the same line subsequently adopted by the road which ultimately became the property of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. The line through the town was west from the present road; it crossed the river at the foot of Jackson street, and ran on Jackson to block 13, and then turned south. Some of the early settlers say it was on Beard street, which is one block further west, but a subsequent lease to the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad, including Jackson street, would indicate that to be the original line. Whichever was the correct line, grading was done and ties were brought by river and unloaded and hauled out over that part of town in great quantities, but were never laid on the grade, nor was ever a rail laid on the proposed road. The project was soon abandoned and the stockholders suffered great financial loss. The prospect of a railroad for Beardstown seemed almost hopeless. Dr. Sprague and other promoters were blamed, but this did not bring back the hard-earned cash that had been invested, nor build a railroad.

ROCKFORD, ROCK ISLAND & ST. LOUIS.

By act of February 16, 1865, the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad Company was incorporated, but no Cass County person's name appears among the list of incorporators. This railroad company secured from Beardstown a lease, on April 1, 1869, for the right to lay a track from the southeastern limits of the town over Morgan and Jackson streets to the Illinois River, and to lay a track along the north ends of all streets from Morgan to Jackson street. Pursuant to the authority granted, work was commenced that year and pushed rapidly forward. Thomas Doyle, now chief of police of the city of Beardstown, had charge of a long section of the road, and employed many men, and it is needless to say the work under "Tom" Doyle would not be delayed. After the road bed was graded to a certain extent, it was deemed advisable to have a construction or work train to assist, so arrangements were made to get an engine and some flat cars. One bright morning in the summer of 1869, the sound of a boat whistle was heard up by Muscouteen Bay, and a large and interested crowd of Beardstown people rushed to the river to "see the train come in," and the first train, or at least the engine,

came in on a boat from Peoria, was promptly unloaded and placed on an improvised track, and in a day or two was at work, with Louis Rodgers as engineer. A track laid along the river front, had enabled the train to gather the material from along the bank, but the first or second trip resulted in a disaster from the road bed having slipped and the rails spreading, precipitating the engine into the river. It was a problem how to extricate it, but the genius and muscle of those hardy constructionists soon conquered, and the rails were raised and a track built under them. As soon as the damage was repaired, work was resumed. The engineer, Louis Rodgers, is still living, residing at some point in Colorado, being at Denver when last heard from by Cass County people. George T. Saunders, the present police magistrate of Beardstown, was also an employe of the road, and recalls many interesting incidents connected with its early history. The first train out of Beardstown was in the summer of 1870, and was an excursion one to Arenzville. Flat cars were provided with seats and they and the engine well decorated with willow boughs and branches from shrubbery. It was a gala occasion and brought joy to the people who had worked so faithfully and spent such large sums of money to secure a railroad. A bridge had been built across the Illinois River the year previous and this road has always been a success, although it has changed hands several times, and is now a part of the vast and magnificent system of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company.

ST. LOUIS, ROCK ISLAND AND CHICAGO DIVISION.

Beardstown was destined from the first to be a division point, and has continued as such to this day. The first shops were small and seemingly insignificant, but it must be remembered that all railroads and their equipment were for many years entirely different from those of today. The first roundhouse had but six stalls. The work shop was also a small affair, housed in a frame building, and from 15 to 20 men were able to do all the work. Since then as high as 1,000 to 1,200 men have been employed who make their homes at Beardstown. On a day, some six years ago, the pay roll for the company amounted to over $72,000. It now amounts to over $50,000 per month. In the panic of 1893, when cash was difficult of attainment, and the banks of Beardstown, which had been able to handle the business usually without trouble, found themselves in a very tight quarter. Pay was held back for a day, and then the merchants and other business men of Beardstown came to the rescue and offered to carry the pay checks, and together with the banks, tided over the crisis. No people in the state or elsewhere in the country, have been more loyal to their local enterprises than have the people of Beardstown. This road is now known as the St. Louis, Rock Island and Chicago division of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and has of the first main track 57,307 feet, and of the second main track 43,982 feet, and of side track 130,099 in Cass County. It enters the county from Schuyler County by crossing the Illinois River at the foot of Morgan street, and runs southerly through Arenzville and out into Morgan County at the south side of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 31, township 17 north, range 11 west. It has a station named Hagener, on section 13 of the same township and range. Its passenger service is excellent, south to St. Louis, and north to Chicago, St. Paul and the great northwest. Its freight business is enormous. Thus good faith, excellent judgment and energy have made Beardstown in the railroad line what it is in other business matters, one of the most progressive of the smaller cities in Illinois.

CHICAGO & ALTON RAILROAD.

The only other railroad in the county is the Chicago & Alton. It was incorporated in 1851 under the name of the St. Louis, Jacksonville & Chicago Railroad. It was opened for business in January, 1858, but in 1863 it was sold to the Chicago & Alton line, and in 1884 became a part of the main line of that road. The first corporation secured the right of way with all improvements of the old Tonica & Petersburg road. The Chicago & Alton Railroad was the first railroad in the world to put on Pullman sleepers and dining cars, and the first to use free reclining chair cars. It runs through only a small portion of Cass County, entering the county from the south half of section 32, township 17, range 8, and passing through the village of Ashland, exits into Menard County from the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 28, same township and range. It was the advent of this road into the county which

induced the laying out of Ashland. The road has of main track iu the county 12,808 feet, and of side track 5,114 feet. The road has no other station in the county except Ashland, which is regarded as an excellent shipping point for all the east end of Cass County, as well as for a large territory in Sangamon and Menard counties which lie contiguous to Ashland.

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

Before the railroads caue iuto the county, the only mode of transportation for either passengers or freight were the stage coach and freight wagon, running along the public highways. The main highways were from the southeast part of the county through the present site of Ashland, to Beardstown, covering nearly the same route as the preseut highways from and between those points. The earliest road from the vicinity of Ashland ran nearly west to Walnut Grove, then north to Archibald Job's farm. The state legislature provided for the laying out of the public highways and several acts are on the statute books conceruing the State Road from Springfield to Beardstown. The oue passed in 1837 provides that after the road reaches the Archibald Job farm it shall run in a direct angle until it strikes the east end of Springfield street in Virginia. Another principal highway was from Beardstowu along Sangamon Bottom to Petersburg, with a branch east of Panther Creek through the timber and bluffs to Spriugfield. The first road from the south was the one starting from St. Louis and runuing through Jacksonville to Fort Clark. It struck what is uow Cass County at old Princeton, iu the southeast quarter of section 36, township 17, range 10 west, and ran on northerly past Allendale and the Cunningham tan yard. A part of that road is still in use in Cass County.

Another main road from the south came from Jacksonville, northerly to New Lexington aud from there iuto Cass at about the place where the preseut road enters the county in section 33, township 17, range 10 west, and coutinued on uorth to Virginia, with a branch turning west about the Morgan County line and running westerly to the west side of the Rexroat place, or what was in an early day the Peter Conover land, and there turning north to the Jefferson Crum farm, in early days owned by George H. Bristow, who died there and who is buried in the old abandoned graveyard nearby, and from that point on northward towards Monroe, a little hamlet platted in 1833, passing by the old tavern or iun built in 1838 by John Savage, which house is still standing in excellent condition, on the west half of the northwest quarter of section 14, township 17, range 11 west. This house was made a stopping place for the stage line from Jacksonville to Beardstown, and kuown as the "Halfway House" between Jacksonville and Beardstown. After the road reached Monroe it ran over the line marked out by a special committee of the early settlers of that ueighborhood who desired a way to get to the market at Beardstown. They had no such outlet until this committee, consisting of Joshua Crow, James Davis and Benjamin Mathews, opened the way uorthwesterly to intersect with the State Road from Springfield to Beardstown. Other lines of road were now rapidly opened aud in looking over the records it appears that Beardstown was like ancient Rome in one respect at least, for all roads led to it. About 1855 some euterprising Beardstown people built a plank toll-road across the sand ridges east towards Virginia. One early settler told the writer that wheu he was a boy he well remembers that plank road, especially upon one occasion, when he had helped to thresh out a couple of wagon loads of oats, by driviug horses in a circle on the ground threshing floor, and then fanned out the chaff with a primitive fan-mill. After that the grain was loaded and he drove one of the teams to Beardstown, over the plank road. He says the boards on the road were mostly cottonwood and the sun had curled up the ends and edges and it was truly a hard road to travel, although it was possible to haul a heavier load over it than could have been hauled over the sand. His troubles were not at au end when he reached Beardstown, for there he found a long string of loaded wagons waiting turn to get into the great warehouse, and he had to sit in the broiling sun for two hours.

Many thousands of dollars in actual money, and many more thousands of dollars in labor value have been spent on the public highways of Cass County, but until within a very few years there have uot been auy very good roads for any considerable portion of the year. More scientific grading and the system of dragging recently introduced, have given us roads that are some better at least. A few hard roads



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have been made in the county, the first being under the state experimental road law, and extended easterly from Beardstown one mile on the highway commonly known as the State Road, to Virginia, and was laid in 1909. The next year a mile of hard road was laid easterly from Beardstown on the Sangamon Bottom road, and about the same time a half mile of concrete road was laid westerly from Chandlerville. The last of the hard roads to be constructed was the mile of State Aid road, under the road law of 1913, commonly known as the "Tice" law. Some pessimistic and cynical people say that if such progress is continued, Cass County will have, within twenty-seven years, a hard road from one side to the other.

STAGE MISSED AFTER FORTY YEARS.

Of the old stage line that ran from Springfield to Beardstown or from Jacksonville to Virginia and Beardstown, very little can be learned. No advertisements appear in any of the copies of the early newspapers so far as investigation discloses, except in the newspaper of Francis Arenz, published in 1833, in which a Mr. Kineer says he has established a large barn at the tavern opposite Beardstown, across the Illinois, where he has good horses, new carriages and hacks which he will use as public conveyances, or let out at private hire, and that his line will be an extension of the Smith & Sanders stage line from Springfield to Beardstown, on into the Military Tract. From that alone is learned who owned the stage line running through the county at that time. It is said upon pretty good authority that the celebrated Frink & Walker stage line at one time had all the branch lines through Cass County. Jacob Dunaway of Virginia was a driver for the stage line in 1849, from Jacksonville to Virginia and from Virginia to Beardstown, but abandoned that exalted position in 1852 for a mercantile business, and in 1854 purchased the stage line from his former employers and conducted it until the railroads put him out of business. The stage made its last trip from Jacksonville to Virginia in the summer of 1869, and the people along the old stage road who had been accustomed to see it make its regular trips day after day for forty years, felt they had been moved away back from civilization when it ceased to travel, and New Lexington of early days, which had become old Arcadia, saw its finish. In looking over old records of highways especially, it is seen that the name of New Lexiugton often appears as a starting point, or place through which the road mentioned should run. No one of the present generation could recall where such a town had been, but a look through the private laws of 1853 disclosed the fact that citizens of that embryo city had applied to the legislature and that on the anniversary of Lincoln's birthday, February 12, 1853, changed the name from New Lexington to Arcadia.

BRIDGES AND TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES.

Beardstown from 1826 had only one way of getting the denizens of Schuyler County across the river, and that was by the ferry of Thomas Beard. That mode of transfer became obsolete, and in 1888, by money advanced by liberal residents, the city council caused a wooden toll-bridge to be constructed across the river from the foot of State street to the Schuyler bank opposite. Subsequently, with money obtaiued in the same manner, this body caused a gravel road to be constructed from the bridge landing in Schuyler County to Frederick. By tolls collected up to 1898, the total cost of the bridge and road had been paid with the exception of $6,500, but the wooden bridge by that time was so worn that it was beyond repair. A new bridge was necessary and to meet the emergency the Beardstown Bridge Company was formed and a new steel bridge was built at a cost of $26,911.60. The city council provided by ordinance for taking over the bridge from the new company, and consummated the plan and have paid for the steel bridge, which is still in excellent condition and making money for the city. The mayor and aldermen who were in office at that time and had charge of the plan were: John J. Beatty, mayor; and J. H. Swope, Sylvester Wildes, Z. H. Sextou, Daniel Draser, James G. Neeley, Theodore Schaar, John Madine and George Lukemeyer, aldermen. The attorney who prepared the plaus and engineered the legal part of the transaction, was the late Hon. Milton McClure.

The old bridges of wood and iron on the highways throughout the county are fast being replaced with concrete structures, which are much more substantial and durable. It is hoped that Cass County will soon get into the procession demanding good roads, aud then construct them.

The first telegraph line in the county ran along the highway from Jacksonville through Monroe neighborhood to Beardstown. The first telephone line through the county was erected in 1896, the right of way being granted by the county board July 20, 1896, to the Central Union Telephone Company. On March 21, 1898, the county board granted a right of way also to the Illinois Telephone Company. These companies changed hands several times. The Bell Company now has a through line, and the Cass County Telephone Company has a line of connections through most of the county, as well as exchanges, and there are several private lines, so that now Cass County has a complete system of telephone lines and connections reaching to almost every point in the entire county.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE PRESS.

FIRST NEWSPAPER—BEARDSTOWN CHRONICLE AND ILLINOIS BOUNTY LAND ADVERTISER—NEUTRAL IN POLITICS—ONE ISSUE OF MORMON PAPER AT NAUVOO—GAZETTE FOUNDED IN 1845 AT BEARDSTOWN—BIOGRAPHY OF SYLVESTER EMMONS—SUBSEQUENT CHANGES—BEARDSTOWN AND PETERSBURG GAZETTE—THE WHIG CENTRAL ILLINOISAN—THE DEMOCRAT, THE FIRST DEMOCRATIC PAPER AT BEARDSTOWN—THE GAZETTE (REPUBLICAN)—THE CENTRAL ILLINOISAN (REPUBLICAN)—BIOGRAPHY OF LOGAN URIAH REAVIS—MERGING OF NEWSPAPERS—THE ILLINOISAN-DEMOCRAT—THE ILLINOISAN-STAR—THE WEEKLY ENTERPRISE—THE DAILY ILLINOISAN-STAR—THE HERALD—THE CHAMPION—THE CASS COUNTY MESSENGER—THE CASS COUNTY DEMOCRAT—THE BEOBACHTER AM FLUSS—THE WOCHENBLATT—NEWSPAPERS AT VIRGINIA—THE OBSERVER—THE OWL—CASS COUNTY TIMES—CASS COUNTY INDEPENDENT—CASS COUNTY UNION—CASS COUNTY DEMOCRAT—EVOLVING OF THE GAZETTE—PROMINENT NAMES CONNECTED WITH ITS HISTORY—CASS COUNTY COURIER—VIRGINIA COURIER—THE ENQUIRER—OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE COUNTY—THE JEFFERSONIAN—TEMPERANCE BUGLE—NEWSPAPERS AT OTHER POINTS—WEEKLY EAGLE AT ASHLAND—THE ASHLAND NEWS—THE SENTINEL—THE NEW ERA AT CHANDLERVILLE—CASS COUNTY JOURNAL—THE INDEPENDENT—THE SANGAMON VALLEY TIMES—THE ARENZVILLE INDEPENDENT—FEW FILES AVAILABLE—OTHER PUBLICATIONS—BIOGRAPHY OF JOSEPH HENRY SHAW—HIS RELIABLE HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CASS COUNTY—PROSE AND POETRY—VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO LOCAL HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

FIRST NEWSPAPER.

The products of the press of Cass County have been limited almost exclusively to the issuance of newspapers. In that particular line of the printing industry, the county has certainly been very prolific. Only a few books have been written and published by citizens of this county, and some literary work has been done which found a place of publication elsewhere. Nevertheless, it is interesting to marshal the list of newspapers printed and published in the county, even though the limits of this work necessarily require the mention of each to be exceedingly brief.

While Cass County was yet a part of Morgan County, there came to Beardstown an enterprising man, frequently mentioned in the pages of this history, Francis A. Arenz, who established the first newspaper plant founded in any part of the state north of Jacksonville, and south of Chicago. It was named the Beardstown Chronicle and Illinois Bounty Land Advertiser. A brother of Francis A. Arenz, Judge John A. Arenz, now deceased, in writing of his brother, and mentioning the newspaper, said: "He established the paper as one of the several enterprises he engaged in for developing the new country and incidentally promoting his own business interests." There are but few of the copies of the paper now in existence, one being in the State Historical Library at Springfield. It is interesting to note in looking over the columns, the advertisements appearing therein. Its first issue was June 18, 1833, and it was continued until the fall of 1834, when the plant was sold and moved to Rushville. The paper had a wide circulation; it carried advertisements from McDonough, Schuyler, Knox, Fulton, Warren, Adams, Hancock, Morgan, Calhoun and Henry counties. Mr. Arenz was a Whig in politics, but the paper was neutral, and was under the management of John B. Fulks, a long time resident of Beardstown.

GAZETTE FOUNDED AT BEARDSTOWN.

There was no other paper in Cass County until 1845, when Sylvester Emmons of Beardstown established the Gazette. The first issue was August 15, 1845. Mr. Emmons was a lawyer of Beardstown, but had been induced by some gentlemen who had started an anti-Mormon paper at Nauvoo, to move to that place to act as editor for them. He succeeded in getting out one issue of the Expositor, as the Nauvoo paper was called, on June 7, 1844. On June 10 the Nauvoo council declared the paper a nuisance and directed the mayor to have the establishment removed. Joseph Smith, the Mormon leader, was the mayor, and the order of the council was immediately carried into execution. After the destruction of the press, the mayor and sixteen others were arrested for riot. This brought on the Mormon war. Mr. Emmons hastily returned to Beardstown where he resumed the practice of law until the following year, when he issued his Gazette. He was born in Hunterdon County, N. J., February 28, 1808, and studied law at Philadelphia, Pa., coming to Hancock County, Ill., later on, and there he was admitted to the bar, in May, 1843. He moved to Beardstown as before stated, prior to going to Nauvoo. After founding the Gazette, he conducted it until 1852, during which time it was a Whig in policy. The paper during the Cass and Taylor campaign of 1848, was very ably edited, and made a strenuous and locally successful campaign for the Whig party. As a result of his efforts, Mr. Emmons was appointed postmaster of Beardstown in 1849. He was mayor of Beardstown for two terms, was master-in-chancery for the county, and in 1852 was elected circuit clerk of the county. Mr. Emmons was a highly respected citizen, and a very able man, whose death occurred November 15, 1881.

When Mr. Emmons was elected circuit clerk, he sold his paper to J. L. Dickerson, who retained it less than eight months, and then sold it to J. L. Sherman, who changed the name to the Beardstown and Petersburg Gazette, and issued it under that name from December 9, 1852, to about 1854, when, the exact date is not known, it was sold to B. C. Drake, who changed the name to the Central Illinoisan. Mr. Drake continued to conduct the paper as an exponent of the Whig doctrines until the organization of the Republican party, in 1856, when he joined that party. During the Lincoln-Douglas debate he issued a daily. It is said he continued the daily until the opening of the Civil war, but this cannot be fully verified. He did, however, continue his weekly until 1861, when he closed the office and enlisted as a soldier. A weekly paper named the Democrat was established at Beardstown, March 12, 1858, by W. D. Shurtliff. This was the first Democratic paper to be published at Beardstown, and was edited by Shurtliff and Davis. In 1862 J. K. Vandemark was made the editor. He resigned in the fall and in 1863 Charles R. Fisk and wife bought the paper and continued it until the close of the Civil war. In 1860 a man by the name of Mitchell started a Republican paper, naming it the Gazette; conducted it until the fall of that year, when it was taken over by a number of Republicans as a stock company, and they changed the name to that of the Central Illinoisan.

LOGAN URIAH REAVIS.

The paper was managed and edited by Logan Uriah Reavis for several years, then by the office foreman until March, 1867, when John S. Nicholson took charge. Logan Uriah Reavis was an unique character, but an able editor and a man of strong convictions. He was born on a farm in the Sangamon bottom, March 26, 1831, and worked on a farm and early attained such an education as he could from the limited school facilities of the times, but soon qualified himself for teaching and for five years taught the public school at Hickory in the precinct of that name. From about 1861 he conducted the Central Illinoisan until 1866, when he went to St. Louis. From then on until his death he spent his life agitating the removal of the national capital from Washington to St. Louis, lecturing and writing and issuing pamphlets on the subject. He attracted considerable attention; even the cartoonists took notice and pictured him as going about with the capitol building on his shoulders. Among other volumes, he published a life of Horace Greeley, and his death occurred at St. Louis, April 25, 1889.

MERGING OF NEWSPAPERS.

John S. Nicholson conducted the paper until 1883, when he sold it to James G. Rice, owner of the Cass County Democrat, who merged the two papers under the name of the Illinoisan-

Democrat. In October of the same year the paper was sold to Eugene Clark, who dropped the Democrat and called the journal the Illinoisan, later selling it back to John S. Nicholson. In April, 1884, it was changed into a semi-weekly, and in 1899 it was consolidated with the Star of the West, as the Illinoisan-Star. H. C. Allard had established the Star in 1888, and made it a daily in 1892. After the union of these two papers, the publishers were Nicholson and Allard until 1902, when Allard retired, and Nicholson and Fulks published the paper for some time, when it became the property of Nicholson and his son, E. E. Nicholson, who edited and published it under that name until the death of John Nicholson, April 19, 1911. From then on it was conducted by the son, the surviving partner, until the spring of 1914, when he sold to Schaeffer and Son, who abandoned the weekly and continued the daily. The plant was consolidated with that of the Enterprise, owned by Schaeffer and Coil. Mr. Coil retired from the firm and the Daily Enterprise was discontinued. The one remaining plant now at Beardstown issues the Weekly Enterprise and the Daily Illinoisan-Star.

In 1872 a paper named the Herald, which was established by Henly Wilkinson and J. W. Lusk as an "out and out" Democratic paper signified a willingness to support Horace Greeley for president as against Grant. Greeley was that year nominated by so-called Independents, and was endorsed by a great portion of the Democratic party. However, the regular nominee of the Democratic party was O'Conor. At the election on November 5, 1872, the Democrats carried the county for Greeley by a plurality of only seven, and a week following the election, an election taken regarding the removal of the county seat, resulted favorably towards Virginia; all of which so discouraged the proprietors and editors of the "out and out" paper that by the next spring they were "down and out," and the paper was taken over by D. G. Swan, who changed its politics to that of liberal Republican, but this sugar-coated application did not revive its circulation, and it was soon removed to Bushnell, Ill.

A paper called the Champion was started September 25, 1875, by George Dann as editor, and George Dann, Jr., and George W. Thompson, as associate editors. It was independent in politics, and suspended in the summer of 1876. Then George Dann, Sr., began the publication of the Cass County Messenger as a Democratic paper. In the latter part of that year, Forest H. Mitchell became associate editor, but in August, 1877, withdrew and was succeeded by W. B. Bennett. In 1879 Mr. Dann sold to J. P. Sailer, who changed the name to the Cass County Democrat. Mr. Sailer conducted the paper until 1882, when J. S. Fulks and George W. Martin became associated with him, and a daily was issued for about a year, but it was not a successful venture, so it was sold to Darb. McAuley, who sold to James G. Rice, this being the paper formerly mentioned as owned by Mr. Rice when he purchased the Central Illinoisan in 1883 and consolidated the two. A large portion of the population of Beardstown and the surrounding country was German and it was thought that a paper published in the German language would be readily subscribed for and financially sustained. Acting upon that belief, Rev. A. Schaberhorn established the Beobachter Am Fluss, in the year 1877. He did not retain control of it long, but in the fall of 1878 sold to Theodore Wilkins, who changed the name to the Wochenblatt, and continued its publication until his death in 1881, when the plant was sold to Ross and Son, who removed it from the city.

NEWSPAPERS AT VIRGINIA.

In the meantime Virginia had been establishing and conducting some newspapers—that is, some of its more enterprising citizens had. The Observer was the first. It was a Democratic paper established by Henry H. Hall, a son of the founder of the town, Dr. Hall, and a few others, and it was said, it was started "for the advancement of the town." Mark W. Delahay was the editor, and A. S. Tilden, said to have been a relative of Hon. Samuel J. Tilden of New York, was the practical printer. The paper was issued April 12, 1848, and continued until some time in the fall of 1849, when it was bought by A. S. Tilden and soon thereafter taken to Naples, in Scott County, Ill. The Owl, a society paper, was conducted for a short time in the winter of 1848-9 by a compositor named Dedrich.

The Cass County Times began at Virginia, September 9, 1856, being started by Richard S. Thomas, a neutral in politics, and for the purpose of promoting the interests of the Illinois River Railroad in which Thomas and a number of other Cass County people were interested. Early in 1858 he sold to John Bradley Thomp-



Johanna G. Dowler

son, who employed Rev. J. S. McDowell to edit, and Robert M. Taggart to publish it. Late in the same year Thompson sold to Taggart, and in the fall of 1859 the paper suspended and reverted to Thomas, who seems to have retained a lien on it. Thomas sold to Hezekiah Naylor, and that sale appears to have resulted in the establishment of the Cass County Independent, in January, 1860. He took as a partner Lafayette Briggs. The paper was at first neutral, but, Briggs withdrawing, Naylor made it a radical Republican organ, and vigorously supported Abraham Lincoln for president. In 1861 the paper suspended and the plant was removed to Pekin, Ill.

In 1860 a number of radical Democrats, including Jacob Dunaway, Jacob Ward and William Petefish, established the Cass County Union, and secured the services of Lafayette Briggs as editor and manager. In 1863 Briggs quit and Stearns DeWitt Rich became editor and remained with the paper until its demise in 1864. The Cass County Democrat was established May 8, 1866, with M. B. Friend as first editor, and financially supported by several citizens who wished to have a newspaper in the town. After several changes in the editorial staff, the paper fell into the hands of J. G. Fuss and J. N. Gridley, but, owing to some difficulty with some of the former associate proprietors about the name, Democrat, Fuss and Gridley changed the name to the Cass County Times, and the journal was conducted by them under that name until 1869, when it was sold to Beers and Company, who managed it, with J. K. Vandemark as editor, until 1870, when it went into obscurity as had so many of its predecessors.

EVOLVING OF THE GAZETTE.

The Cass County Courier was established July 25, 1866, by John S. Harper, the veteran "starter" and editor of newspapers. It was Republican in politics, and after a few issues, L. S. Allard became the editor and proprietor. In 1867 he turned it over to Leroy Carpenter, who was soon succeeded by H. C. Allard, a son of the former proprietor, and in 1870 the name was changed to the Virginia Courier, and was owned and edited by H. C. Allard, who in October, 1871, changed the name back to the Cass County Courier. Allard sold an interest to N. M. Purciance, but soon repurchased it. The paper did not prosper, and Allard sold a half interest to Mathew Summers, in 1872, and the paper was continued under the new name of the Gazette, beginning February 23, 1872, and has been continued under that title ever since. On March 14, 1873, Allard sold to Summers, and in August, 1875, the latter sold an interest to Joseph Anderson. These two continued together until late in the winter of 1875, when Mr. Summers died. The paper suspended for a brief period, but resumed on February 26, 1876, with A. M. Brownlee, and H. C. Allard, a former proprietor, as editors and publishers. Allard withdrew in August, 1877, and later the same year Mr. Brownlee sold to Trevanyon L. Mathews and W. H. Thacker. Mr. Mathews was a member of the Thirty-third General Assembly as a Republican from Cass County, elected in the fall of 1882. He was the last Republican representative from the county of Cass. Subsequently he moved to Nebraska, and became a United States marshal. W. H. Thacker was the William H. Thacker whose poem, "The Scene of Frontier Days," appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Thacker did not remain long with the paper, but soon sold to Mathews, who in turn sold to Allard in 1879. Allard sold to Charles M. Tinney, in April, 1881, and he conducted the Gazette from then until July 19, 1913, when he sold to Henry McDonald, who had been for a number of years his business manager. Thus it will be seen that Mr. Tinney was the owner and editor of a newspaper in Cass County for thirty-two years, a longer period than it has been the lot of very many persons to sit in an editorial chair. It was during all that time a Republican paper in a county that was continuously a Democratic county by overwhelming majorities. Yet Mr. Tinney made his paper a very popular one, and what was of still greater importance, a financial success. He became widely known through his paper, throughout the entire state, and became the president of the Illinois Newspaper Association. He has the unique distinction of having served as private secretary to two governors, Richard Yates and Charles S. Deneen. Mr. Tinney was born in Marion, Grant County, Ind., November 11, 1850. In 1859 he was taken by his father to Pekin, Ill., where he attended the public schools, and later spent a year in a college in Iowa. He returned home and studied law, being admitted to the bar in 1873. After two years' practice in his home town, he came to Virginia, where he entered into partnership

with Cashias M. Whitney, a distinguished lawyer who was at that time the district state's attorney for the district in which Cass County was situated. The county seat fight was on for the last time in Cass, and the firm of Whitney and Tinney was among the number of lawyers engaged in that memorable contest. About 1879 Mr. Whitney moved from Virginia, and the partnership was dissolved, and in 1881 Mr. Tinney purchased the Gazette, as has been stated, and practically abandoned his law practice. Had he seen fit to remain to practice, it is certain he would have become one of the leading lawyers of central Illinois. Mr. Tinney continued his residence at Virginia until he sold the Gazette, when he took up his legal residence at Springfield, where he had in fact been living ever since his entry into the Governor's office as private secretary. After the close of the Deneen administration, Mr. Tinney became secretary of the Business Men's Association of Springfield, which office he still holds.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF COUNTY.

The Virginia Enquirer was established by Reemsten and Company, the company being John S. Harper, July 3, 1875. After nine weeks the company revealed himself to the public as John S. Harper, publisher and editor. In November of the same year he sold to a syndicate composed of Ignatius Skiles, William Easley, Charles Crandall, Cash. Whitney, Samuel Petefish, and others, who secured Thomas M. Thompson as editor and J. J. Bunce as publisher. In a few weeks the paper was sold to W. T. Dowall. William T. Dowall and Company became publishers in January, 1876, with Forest H. Mitchell as manager. On March 23, 1877, Mr. Dowall sold to John Frank, J. M. Beatty became editor for a short time, and Mr. Frank remained with the paper until September, 1882, when R. H. Norfolk became the editor, and continued as such until March 29, 1884. Mr. Beatty then became the owner and editor and kept the paper until November 15, 1890, at which time he sold to Charles A. and William Schaeffer. William Schaeffer sold his interest to Charles Schaeffer in April, 1891, and on September 26 of the same year, Mr. Schaeffer sold to Finis E. Downing, who conducted the paper until September 7, 1899, when he was succeeded by his son, Harry F. Downing. H. F. Downing continued as editor and publisher until March, 1904, when Albert Hinners, who had been for six years county superintendent of the public schools, bought a half interest. In 1906 Mr. Hinners resold his interest to his partner, Mr. Downing, but on January 1, 1910, again bought a half interest in the plant, then becoming the associate editor, and on November 1, 1911, became sole proprietor and editor, and has continued so to the present time. The paper is the official organ of the county by resolution of the county board and is in a flourishing condition and a well conducted and well edited paper.

The Jeffersonian was established at Virginia by John J. Bunce, April 3, 1870, and was duly issued from week to week until it was discontinued, December 26, 1873.

NEWSPAPERS AT OTHER POINTS.

At Ashland, John S. Harper, the veteran editor and publisher, who claimed and possibly had the distinction of having started more newspapers in Illinois than any other person, established on March 2, 1876, the Weekly Eagle. After seven issues the weekly was dropped as a part of the title and the paper for four months was conducted as the Eagle, and then sold to A. F. Smith, who removed it to Virginia, and started the Temperance Bugle in July, 1876, continuing this journal until February 27, 1879. A paper named the News was published at Ashland for a few years, being first issued in the summer of 1879. John J. Smith was the editor in 1880, and the matter has been lost track of since, but some time about 1883, A. E. Mich conducted the Sentinel, although whether he bought the old plant, or secured an entirely new outfit, is not known. In a short time he sold to S. Darb. McAuley and Company, who in a short time sold to I. H. Stanley, a lawyer who was the proprietor and editor until about 1896, when the plant was sold to Mann Brothers. They kept it for a year, and on May 15, 1897, it was sold to P. W. Bast, who has ever since maintained it, and has published an excellent country newspaper, with a large subscription list and a paying job and advertising department.

The village of Chandlerville has had several newspapers. The New Era was established February 7, 1874, by J. J. Bunce and Son. The Cass County Journal was established by Charles A. Pratt, August 5, 1876, and conducted as a Democratic paper until August 3, 1878, when

he sold it to John W. and Gilbert Skaggs, who changed the name to the Independent. John W. Skaggs edited the paper only one month, after which time the other brother bought his interest and managed the paper as editor and publisher until December, 1879, when he sold to Ebenezer Spink. In 1881 Mr. Spink resold to Gilbert Skaggs, but after an absence of one year from the editoral sanctum, Mr. Spink again purchased the paper and changed its name to that of the Sangamon Valley Times, and under that pastoral title issued the paper regularly every week until 1887, when he again changed the name, this time to the Chandlerville Times, which it has born to date. E. O. Spink became the business manager in 1904, and in 1908 purchased the plant and continued as both editor and manager until the summer of 1911, when the present editor, Ora Shankland, became the owner. The paper is a well printed, well edited weekly, and is liberally patronized by the people of the village and community. Regular files of this paper are retained in the office.

The Arenzville Independent was established about 1908, with R. J. Hoagland, a practical printer, as proprietor and editor. He continued the paper until his death in 1911, and from that time until the present, his widow, Mrs. Anna S. Hoagland, has conducted it with the assistance of Lloyd S. Yeck as editor. It is a weekly paper and has a good circulation in the southwestern part of the county, and that part of Morgan County bordering on Cass County on the southwest. It is to be regretted that so few of the publishers kept files of their papers. Newspapers may not seem of great importance at the date of their publication, but as time passes many changes occur in every neighborhood, and especially in the smaller towns and villages, the early settlers die, some remove to other parts of the country, and many things seemingly insignificant in themselves happen week after week. The local papers give a moving picture of the transitory things of life, and ought by all means to be preserved. Very few copies indeed of any of the many newspapers mentioned in the foregoing brief outline of the press of Cass County, can now be found, and could they be had for perusal, they would aid very materially in correcting the many errors that unavoidably creep into historical writings. The Virginia Gazette and the Virginia Enquirer have files for a number of years back, and there may be others of the county papers also having files preserved, but we have not had access to them if they can be found.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS.

There have been other publications of more or less literary and historical value, long since out of print, accredited to Cass County.

A wall map of the county, with plates of the towns and villages and some biographical matter, was once published, with an outline of the various precincts as they were constituted at that time, and also some lithograph pictures of business and residence buildings in existence at the time of publication, some of which are still standing and in use. The map has, also, a list of the business interests of the towns and villages, a perusal of which would revive many pleasant and interesting recollections of early days. The date of the publication does not appear on the map, but as Hezekiah Naylor is given as proprietor of the Cass County Independent, and as he held that position only during 1860, it is but natural to infer that this map was issued some time during '60 or '61. The lithographs are very good pictures. Henry F. Kors, for several years circuit clerk of this county, is authority for the statement that the pictures were made from ambrotypes taken by a Dr. J. W. Sherfey, who, at that time, was a teacher in the Beardstown public schools, and, as a side line, conducted a picture gallery. Mr. Kors further says that he was a boy then and traveled around with the doctor from place to place in a spring wagon; that the paraphernalia was carried in a large box, which was also used as a "dark room," and that his job was that of chief bottle washer and plate cleaner.

The next publication of this character was an atlas map of Cass County, published in 1874, which is also illustrated by a number of lithographs, especially of farm residences, and shows a marked improvement and flourishing condition of farm property in the county. A standard atlas of Cass County was published in 1899. Publications of a purely literary character have been issued from the press of Cass County, and some of the writings of Cass County authors have been published elsewhere.

HON. JOSEPH HENRY SHAW.

Joseph Henry Shaw was born at Boston, Mass., July 25, 1825, where his father, Joseph Shaw, was a book publisher. In 1836 Joseph

Shaw came to Morgan County, Ill., bringing his family with him, and located on a farm. There the son, J. Henry Shaw, which name he has always been known by and called, worked for his father until he was twenty-one years old. He attended such schools as were in existence near him, but gained much of his information and learning from newspapers and periodicals which his father brought home with him from newspaper offices of Jacksonville, where he frequently went to assist the publishers and editors. After arriving at the age of twenty-one years, he was advised by the Hon. Richard Yates, then a prominent man of Jacksonville, to study law, and upon his consent to do so, loaned him law books from his own library. Mr. Shaw made rapid progress in mastering the mysteries of Gould's common law, pleading and other works of the noble science of law, and, although devoting his time also to work on the farm, yet, when he was twenty-five years old, he felt sufficiently advanced in the knowledge of his choseu profession to present himself for examination that he might acquire a license to practice. He was admitted to the bar in 1850, and removed to Beardstown, this county, where he began the practice of his calling, and there lived the balance of his life. He acquired a fine practice and became an influential citizen. He was an excellent speaker, although not an orator in the highest sense; expressed himself well in clear English, and was forceful in arguments before the court and jury. He devoted considerable time to literature, and produced many splendid articles for the newspapers and magazines. He also wrote several poems and was endued with something of the true spirit of the poetic muse. Had he devoted himself exclusively to literature he would, most surely, have attained distinctiou in that line. His "Legend of Monsoela," a recital in rhyme of an imaginary battle between the Muscoutens and Miamis, Indian tribes formerly occupying and contending for supremacy of the Mound Village on the present site of Beardstown, is interesting and as nearly true to facts as many of the legendary occurrences of Indian history. It appears in full in Perrin's "History of Cass County." In 1876 the Congress of the United States, upon the suggestion of President Grant, passed a resolution requesting every city and county to appoint some suitable person to deliver on the fourth of July of that year, an address which should contain a brief account of the local history, that it might be perpetuated. Mr. Shaw, on account of the fact that he had given some considerable study to the early history of the county, as well as for his well known ability, was appointed to deliver the address for Cass County. Hence, on July 4, 1876, Hon. J. Henry Shaw, of Beardstown, delivered an address which he had prepared, entitled, "Historical Sketch of Cass County," which was subsequently published in pamphlet form by the Cass County Messenger. It comprises fifty-three pages, and is a very interesting work, and withal quite valuable historically. Mr. Shaw was elected a member of the Thirty-second General Assembly from Cass County, and was again elected a member to the Thirty-fourth Assembly, but his health having failed, April 12, 1885 he died very suddenly at his hotel at Springfield, during attendance on the legislature.

PROSE AND POETRY.

Publications in book form from Cass County include a "History of Cass County," by William H. Perrin, editor, published in 1882, but as some of the chapters on the general history of the county were by Mr. Shaw, the work is familiarly known as "Shaw's History."

In 1857 Benjamin F. W. Stribling, second son of Benjamin Stribling, one of the very earliest pioneers of Cass County, who located near Virginia, published a small volume of poems of his own composition, on various subjects of quite a wide range. It was published by the Beardstown Illinoisan and contained 238 pages. Just about that time the promoters of the Illinois River Railroad were striving earnestly to convince the people of Cass County of the utility and absolute necessity of building the railroad from Bath to Virginia at least. Mr. Stribling fired a broadside into the ranks of wavering denizens of the woods and prairies, which, if it did not aid materially in gaiuing subscriptions for the stock of the proposed road, gained some enduring fame for himself. The following is one of the verses:

"Then let us join to build a road
That's good when dry and when there's mud.
Come, rise up, boys, no more delay;
Procrastiuation will not pay.
Let's pledge our faith and yellow dust
To build the road—we can, we must."



Wm. Dufelmeier, and Family

Frank Stribling will be remembered as a genial, wholesouled man, who loved his books and his fireside. He was also something of a musician. The writer had the pleasure on a number of occasions, to sit in his presence by the old, wide open fireplace, and hear him repeat some of his poems, and also sing them to some ancient tune accompanied upon his violin.

In 1906 there was published in Cass County by Elijah Needham, a book seller and stationer of Virginia, a small volume entitled "Adam W. Snyder in Illinois History." It covers a period of the history of Illinois from 1817 to 1842, and was written by Dr. John Francis Snyder of Virginia, a son of the Adam W. Snyder named in the title page of the book. It is an exceedingly well written review of the formative period of the great state of Illinois, its growth and progress, and blended with it is a biography of the principal character, Hon. Adam W. Snyder, who was one of the earliest pioneers, and served the state as an able representative in the halls of congress, and in the state legislature in both house and senate. It also contains a brief notice of a number of the public men of that day, with many of whom the author, Dr. Snyder, had a personal acquaintance, and with some of whom he was quite intimately associated. This fact, as well as the excellent literary character and style of the work, enhances the charm and interest one has in perusing its pages, and learning, as it seems, almost first hand, of the achievements of the great men of that epoch, who witnessed the birth of our state and helped to lay the foundations of its present greatness and glory. No collection of histories of Illinois is complete without a copy of this splendid though unpretentious volume. In August, 1907, a volume entitled "Historical Sketches," was published by the Virginia Enquirer. It is almost exclusively composed of biographical sketches of early settlers, and those who became more or less prominent in the county of Cass, with some descriptions of early conditions of the towns and villages; also that which is extremely interesting and especially worthy of preservation, the early and abandoned graveyards with the list of those who, it can be learned, were interred therein. J. N. Gridley, who for a third of a century or more was a practicing lawyer in this county, and for a great portion of that time was the master-in-chancery, is the author of most of the articles, and the editor of many of the others furnished to him for publication. Dr. J. F. Snyder also contributed quite a number of sketches, principally of a biographical nature. All of the articles are well written and graphically portray the scenes of the early times in Cass County, as well as give to this generation an excellent characterization of the founders of the county, and will preserve for all time to come interesting historical facts which might otherwise have been consigned to oblivion.

CHAPTER XXIII.

CLIMATOGRAPHICAL AND METEOROLOGICAL PHENOMENA.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS—DRY SEASON IN EARLY DAYS—LATER CONDITIONS—WIND STORMS—CYCLONES—DEEP SNOW OF 1830-31—SHOOTING STARS OF 1833—EXTREME AND SUDDEN COLD OF 1836—SNOW STORMS—CYCLONES OF 1845, 1855 AND 1856—WARM WINTER OF 1877—SLEET STORM, LATE FROST AND CYCLONE IN 1883—HEAVY FLOODS AND HIGH WATER—COLD DAYS—CYCLONE OF 1911—WORST STORM EVER ENCOUNTERED HERE—OTHER METEOROLOGICAL EVENTS.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

The climate of Cass County is practically the same as that in all central Illinois. Local conditions vary somewhat in the prairie and timber upland from the Sangamon and Illinois river bottoms. The prevailing winds are from the south during most of the months of the year; the trade winds from the Gulf of Mexico no doubt largely affect the temperature during the summer and autumn. The mean temperature of the county is about 50.75 degrees and although we have had some extreme weather, both hot and cold, the mean temperature does not vary much. The annual rainfall is from 35 to 42 inches. The parts of the county other than the bottom lands have been subject to many violent storms, which have done a vast amount of damage to property and livestock, also causing the loss of a number of human lives.

The first dry season affecting the county occurred in 1820 when there were but few inhabitants and very little land in cultivation.

The whole year was without much rainfall from April, 1820, to April of the next year, but the soil, being new and thus very productive, those settlers who had planted and sowed, reaped a fairly good crop. In 1845 a severe wind storm swept the county from the southwest over Little Indian Creek neighborhood in Morgan County to the northeast into Cass County. It was extremely violent, destroying barns and fences in Morgan County, and several houses in Cass County, one of them being the Walnut Grove schoolhouse near old Princeton, but no person was injured, although much damage was done to the timber, leaving a path through the heaviest tracts of woodland. These paths could be seen for years afterwards.

An anecdote of the hurricane was told in the neighborhood long after time and weather had effaced the material effects of the storm. With some basis of truth, it was probably exaggerated by the irreverent story teller of the time. In the path of the storm stood a cabin in which lived a family whose name, given as Taylor, is probably fictitious. The head of the household, however, was named Bill, and the other members of the family consisted of Bill's wife and several little Bills. The family had retired for the night when the storm arose, and the crashing of falling timber and flying clapboards aroused the wife, who hustled Bill out, and about that time the door blew open and Bill braced himself against it and placed his arms in the loops made to hold the heavy bar. The storm increased; part of the roof blew away, and the wife thought it time to call for help from a source which in fair weather was usually ignored, so she told Bill to pray. Bill was not an expert in prayerful expression, but his instinct for self-preservation and for the safety of his family enabled him to ask the higher power to intercede and save them from utter destruction. But the storm continued with unabated fury and the family protector exerted more energy in trying to keep the door shut than he did in prayer. Suddenly a limb from a close by tree fell with a crash across the road, shattering some of the clapboards down upon the bed, and the wife besought Bill to pray louder. The storm, however, and Bill's courage and piety gave out about the same time, and except for a drenching rain which followed the wind storm no damage to the family by that time was done.

TORNADOES.

In 1857 a tornado swept over the southwestern corner of Cass County, blowing houses and fences away, passing over the place where the Wagner's Bridge schoolhouse now stands, in Indian Creek Precinct, and took the log cabin schoolhouse off the puncheon floor, dashing the logs into the creek some distance away.

In October, 1858, a tornado or cyclone passed west of the town of Virginia, felling the trees in its path, but it did not encounter any houses until near the Needham schoolhouse, which had been built the year previously. The teacher, Archie Campbell, noticing the dangerous looking cloud approaching, sent the children to their homes, and he remained in the schoolhouse to watch the storm, feeling secure himself, as the building was very substantial. The storm, however, took but little heed of its style of architecture, its qualities for resistance, or its dignity as a seat of learning, but lifted it up from the floor above the head of the astonished teacher, and tore it into shreds. The floor was left intact with the desks and teacher sitting in his chair, but the remainder of the building was never found, although the school children made diligent search. Other houses northeast of the schoolhouse were also badly injured, but no lives were lost.

DEEP SNOW.

The deep snow of 1830-31 is, perhaps, the most noted meteorological event in the history of Illinois. It began snowing in the latter part of November, 1830, and continued, with brief intermissions, until January, 1831. Then a cold rain set in which froze as it fell and formed a heavy crust on the snow. More snow followed with a severe cold blast lasting for two weeks or more. The average depth of snow was 3 or 4 feet on a level, but in many places it drifted from 7 to 8 feet deep, covering the fences and filling the lanes and roads until they were impassable. Much of the corn was yet in the field, and the snow covered it so deep that it was next to impossible to extricate it. Had the people expected anything like such continuous snow and stormy weather, they would have gathered their grain and fodder as soon as the first snow began to fall, but the oldest inhabitant had experienced nothing of the kind; in fact, the winter weather prior to that year from the

earliest settlement, had been extremely mild, so much so that many people were indnced to come to Illinois by stories of the excellent mild climate and short winters. Wild game suffered dnring the deep snow, for want of food, and many animals died of. starvation. From that year on, for several years, game animals were very scarce. The deer never were as plentiful thereafter. Game birds from the lack of food and continnous cold weather, died in great numbers. Domestic animals suffered greatly for lack of sufficient food, and many of them also died. Altogether it was a disastrons winter for the settlers, and the narration of the conditions reaching back to the older states, retarded emigration to a great extent for some time.

SHOOTING STARS.

Two years later, in the fall of 1833, came another strange phenomenon, called the shooting or falling stars. Those who happened to be abroad at two o'clock in the morning of November 13, of 1833, saw an awe-inspiring sight, as myriads of meteors or stars or star dust, shot across the heavens, criss-crossing in wavering line and dancing like whirling snowflakes in an early autumn storm, brilliantly illuminating the sky with repeated showers in this great pyrotechnic display until dispelled by the light of the rising sun. Many persons were terror stricken and thought the world had reached its end. Although nothing like it had occurred on the western continent so far as recorded, in magnitnde and brilliancy, it was not a new nor wonderful thing to students of astronomy. One of the earliest accounts of shooting stars relates that in 472 A. D., the sky at Constantinople appeared to be alive with flying stars and meteors. In some eastern annals we are told that in October, 1202, "the stars appeared like waves upon the sky. They flew about like grasshoppers, and were dispersed from right to left." Humboldt describes a shower occurring in 1799, saying: "the sky was covered with innumerable fiery trails which incessently traversed the sky from north to south. From the beginning of the phenomena there was not a space in the heavens three times the diameter of the moon which was not filled every instant with celestial fireworks—large meteors blending constantly their dazzling brilliancy with long phosphorescent paths of shooting stars." The explanation of the phenomena is, as given by astronomers, that aerolites, meteors and falling stars have a common origin; they are produced by small bodies which, like our earth, are revolving aronnd the sun. These small bodies in great nnmbers form almost a complete circle abont the sun. Their orbit intersects the orbit of the earth, and when they reach the point of crossing at the same time, there is a collision, and the small, luminons bodies appear to be falling to the earth. They may be seen annually; in some years in greater numbers than in others. The phenomena occnrs most generally abont the middle of November, but shooting stars may be seen almost any clear night in the snmmer and fall months, in more or less numbers.

On December 28, 1876, at eight o'clock P. M., the people of Cass County were startled by a loud report in the heavens. Those who were out of doors, and those who could get out in time, saw a singularly beautifnl meteoric display. A large luminous ball, with a fiery trail of twenty degrees or more in length, passed over from the southwest in a northeasterly direction. The sky was brilliantly illuminated as the meteor passed rapidly over, and a whitish green light remained for some time after the fiery ball had disappeared from sight. From the reports in the daily papers of the next day, the occurrence was not local, but was visible at about the same moment of time all over central United States from the Rocky monntains to the Alleghanies. No account was ever given as to what became of it for the reason, no doubt, that no one could learn its origin or destination. It came with a noise and a light. It was but momentary in its passage over the earth, and by the time the last echoes of its noise were heard, its weird light had too disappeared. Awe inspiring in its grandeur of appearance, it will be vividly recalled by those fortunate enough to witness its dazzling race through the sky.

TEMPERATURE VARIATION.

Although the temperature of Cass County, like other portions of central Illinois, is about an average of 51 degrees, yet it has been subject to many very sudden changes. The temperature often runs as high as 100 degrees in the shade during the summer months, thus continuing for several days. In the winter it often drops suddenly without previous warning to a very low degree. This peculiarity of climatic conditions is very distasteful to some people who regard

these changes as undesirable for a residence district. The conditions, however, are usually so generally favorable, and the climate so delightful for such a large portion of the year, that few people having settled here and become accustomed to the environments ever leave on account of occasional discomfort. The most remarkable fall in temperature recorded or remembered in this part of Illinois, occurred December 20, 1826. Several inches of snow had fallen in the early part of the day, but the temperature was so mild that the snow soon melted, and in the afternoon a light, warm rain began to fall. About 2 P. M. it began to grow suddenly dark, from a heavy cloud rising in the northwest. A strong wind swept over the land with a bellowing noise and almost instantly the temperature fell to the freezing point. Those who were away from home hastened to get to shelter from the cold; but no one anticipated the change would be of such marked character. Those who were at some distance from the house in the fields or away from home on the road, suffered greatly. Dr. Charles Chandler, founder of Chandlerville, was out on one of his professional calls, up the Sangamon bottom, several miles east of his home. Although used to hardships and all kinds of weather, he found it necessary to stop at the first place where he might warm himself. This was at the general store kept by Henry T. and Abner Foster, about six miles east of the present site of Chandlerville. After warming up, the doctor again started for home, but soon found himself freezing again. He stopped at the next house, and at the next, until, before he reached his own home, he had been compelled to make four stops; and then when he did arrive to within a short distance of his own door, his horse, exhausted by the cold and the rapid gait at which he had been urged on, fell and threw the physician to the ground. Fortunately members of his family saw him coming and ran out immediately and dragged him into the house, he then being almost frozen to death.

Small, shallow pools of water, caused by the rain and melting snow, froze in waves as the water was blown about by the wind. Chickens and small pigs running through the slush and mud were frozen fast to the ground. At Beardstown, where Thomas Beard was then running a ferry across the Illinois River, the ice formed so rapidly that the ferry-boat could not be propelled, as the long poles used to push the boat would freeze fast in the slushy river water, and the boat finally had to be abandoned and the ferrymen taken to a cabin on the bank of the river. Two young men were frozen to death near Rushville. One of them was found sitting with his back against a tree, his horse's bridle over his arm, and the horse frozen in front of him. The other was partly kneeling, a tinder box in one hand, and a flint in the other. Both eyes were open and peering at the tinder and flint as if intent on striking a light. Many other unusual casualties were reported. There appears to have been no thermometer record of the drop in temperature, but the ice froze in the streets to a thickness of 6 inches in one hour, and by the next morning ice was more than a foot thick. On January 28, 1873, the temperature fell to 40 degrees below zero. Snow covered the ground to a depth of 16 inches, and that day is said to have been the coldest ever known in Illinois. Other very sudden and remarkable changes have occurred in the temperature, but none so extreme as the two cases mentioned.

In 1855 a very severe snow storm prevailed over the entire central and northern portions of the United States. The snow was packed heavy and deep in Cass County, and its inhabitants were shut in from the rest of the world for several days. However, there was no railroad in Cass County at that time to be blockaded, but the stage coach travelers spent the time at the wayside inns. The winter of 1877 was extremely mild; really no winter at all. It rained at frequent intervals during the entire winter months, and the roads were almost impassable the entire winter through. Many country people went to their towns on foot, and others contrived to make a two-wheel cart out of the fore part of the heavy wagon, and even with that light vehicle it was all that two horses could do to pull through the mud with the necessary store goods the farmer tried to take home to his immured family. Those who lived near the railroads were better off, using them for making their market trips to town.

SLEET STORM, LATE FROST AND CYCLONE.

In February, 1883, came a great sleet storm that covered the trees and everything else in sight with heavy ice. The disturbance was general throughout the central West, and the changing temperature from cold to warm



Charles Frank

melted the snow that covered the ground, another change converting melting snow to a sheet of ice, covering the earth and bending the trees almost to the ground with its weight, doing great damage to forest, fruit and ornamental trees, many of the limbs being broken. May 18, 1883, opened as a very mild day, with a strong southerly wind blowing, which, as the day wore on, increased in force, until about 4 o'clock P. M., when a light rain set in, but it ceased by nightfall. About 8 o'clock P. M., a heavy cyclone, which had seemingly been dipping down along the southern part of Morgan County and reaching over into Sangamon County, returned to the northern part of Morgan County, rising above the city of Jacksonville, and again swaying to the earth completely destroyed the village of Literberry. Then it passed on into Cass County, taking a northeasterly direction almost in the identical path of the cyclone of 1845, doing immeasurable damage to fences, barns, houses and outbuildings and leveling and tearing up by the roots great stretches of timber through which it passed. No lives were lost in Cass County, although ten were killed and twenty-four injured at Literberry. One family in Cass County had a very narrow escape. George W. Leonard, who now lives at Virginia, resided with his wife and one small boy on the William Melone farm in township 17, range 9. He also had a hired man living at his house, and it is to him that the family owe their escape. All had retired and Mr. Leonard was asleep when the peculiar and dreaded sound of the approaching storm was heard by the farm hand, who had previously lived in Kansas, where he had passed through enough experience in cyclones to learn to heed at once the angry mutterings of that kind of storm. Jumping out of bed and getting himself into a few articles of clothing, he called loudly to the others of the household to run for the cellar. Mrs. Leonard, already aroused by the thunder, threw some bed clothes around her, and Mr. Leonard, more asleep than awake, caught up the infant boy, and wrapping the child and himself in a bed-quilt, hurried with the others into the cave outside, which had served for a cellar, just in time to sit in personal safety and hear the roaring, frightful, hideous storm catch up his house and tear it into a million parts. It was hurled for miles over the prairie, together with everything in it. The storm left them with not even a stitch of clothing, nothing to wear but the bed clothes wrapped about them. Nothing was ever recovered. This was the most disastrous wind storm within the memory of the oldest inhabitant of that time. The spring had opened propitiously for the farmers, and they were well along with the usual spring work. Oats were growing splendidly, and corn was up from four to six inches. The next night after the cyclone, the temperature fell very low, with a heavy frost, which cut the corn to the ground, and killed all the garden vegetables that had been left unprotected.

HEAVY FLOODS AND HIGH WATER.

There have been a number of periods of extreme high water in Cass County, which have done great damage to persons and property. In 1826, the year in which Thomas Beard established the first ferry across the Illinois River, the Mississippi and Illinois rivers were higher than had been known for forty years. In 1828 the waters were very high and surrounded the Mound village, creeping close up to the foot of the great mound and flooding all the bottom lands. Four years later the whole Mississippi valley was submerged; the river at St. Louis being 54 feet above low water mark. The greatest flood in this part of the country that has ever been recorded, as one person said who witnessed it, since the days of Noah, occurred in 1844. Every river west of the Alleghany mountains, and north of the Gulf of Mexico, seemed to rise simultaneously. More than 400 people were drowned, and many horses, cattle and other animals lost their lives. In the city of Beardstown the water was one foot deep on Main street, and the place became an island with water 10 feet deep between it and the bluffs on the east. Many towns and villages in the Mississippi valley were inundated and washed away. It was the most disastrous flood that had occurred in Illinois from its remotest history up to that time. The high water of 1844 has been a term of comparison for high stages of water ever since. The frequent recurrence of the floods and high stages of water along the Sangamon, Illinois and Mississippi river bottoms has greatly retarded the development and improvement of the naturally fertile and valuable lands, but in recent years many levees have been constructed which have protected the lands from the dangers of an extraor-

dinary freshet, and the lands, under-drained by tiling, and surface-drained by open ditches, together with pumping stations, have been reclaimed, a wide expanse of splendid alluvial soil unexcelled in productiveness anywhere upon the globe. It is somewhat surprising to find upon investigation, how frequently since the settlement and platting of the city of Beardstown, that place, along with a great portion of the Illinois bottom, has been subject to high stages of water, and threatened with inundation. Yet the energetic people of Beardstown have always met the emergencies with a judgment and courage that has prevented any serious damage to person or property. In 1849 the flooded condition of the river again brought the waters up to a level with Main street. The years 1852, 1856 and 1858, saw the waters rise almost as high as in any previous year. Often, in such stages of water, large steamboats passed upon the east side of the city. There have been a number of other floods and periods of high water extending from above Chandlerville along the Sangamon valley to Beardstown and on down the Illinois valley. At such times drainage ditches would overflow and levees give way, entailing thousands of dollars of loss upon the unfortunates who inhabited the low lands. The last, and the highest since 1844, occurred in April of 1913, when the waters rose to within a few inches of the high water mark of 1844, and, as indicated by the Meredosia gauge. Of the twelve drainage districts in Cass County, there was not one but what suffered damage to its levees through their being washed away. In some places the lands were overflowed to a depth of 4 and 5 feet. There was not only great financial loss, by reason of the necessity for rebuilding the levees, and clearing out the ditches, but the farmers within these districts were unable to get in any crops until so late that year that they did not mature well, and were of little marketable value. Beardstown's streets were again covered with water a foot deep or more. This time, however, the water in the streets was caused by the backing of the sewers. Hundreds of men were employed night and day by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company, to keep their tracks from washing out along the low lands east of the town, where the river, in former years, would always endeavor to take a short cut for St. Louis. The method employed to hold the embankment was to fill sacks with sand and place them along the track. It took thousands of sacks of sand, and energetic labor with eternal vigilance, to keep back the swirling waters until the floods subsided.

Man may guard against the ill effects of freshets and overflowing streams by building embankments; he can even keep out the waters of the sea by those methods, as he has done effectively by dikes in Holland and Belgium; and he can protect himself and his household against the rainfall by covering his humble cabin with clapboards or his hewn-stone mansion with a slate roof, unless he belongs to that type found by the traveler in Arkansas who did not shingle his house because when it was not raining he did not need a roof on it, and when it was raining it was too wet to work at it. No means, however, have yet been discovered whereby the downpour of rain can be checked, or that man can protect his land and crops from the drenching precipitation when nature gathers her vapors in superabundance and "drops her garnered fullness down."

On August 25, 1912, at about 6 o'clock P. M., two large black clouds, one from the south and one from the northwest, came together over Cass County, and then began one of the heaviest rains ever seen in this part of the state. It was a steady downpour without any accompaniment of wind, and by 10 o'clock at night all the creeks were out of their banks, and rapidly widening. It seemed to be general all over the county, as all the water courses, large and small, became raging torrents and washed away bridges and fences and anything else that was found in their paths. Thousands of dollars of damage was done to the bridges on the highways. Some of the most substantial iron bridges, with concrete abutments, were washed out, and travel was impeded for weeks on some of the roads. No such rain has been experienced in this part of the state within the memory of any living person. It was not a cloud-burst, as has often given heavy downpour, in certain localities for a short period, but was a steady rain in great volume, spread over the entire county; reports of the storm showing but little difference in various sections of the county, and the territory adjoining. It did not raise the water level even in the lower lands to high water stage, as it ran off in a short time, the damage done being mainly confined to destruction of bridges and fences.

CYCLONE OF 1911.

Cass County, although it has had its share of storms, electrical displays, wind, rain and snow, had been extremely fortunate in the small amount of damage done to property, and to life, until the fearful cyclone of 1911. Even that calamity was confined largely to the central portion of the county, and fell most heavily upon the city of Virginia, and its immediate neighborhood. It will be remembered by those who were in its midst, and those who stood on the outer edge of its dreadful path and witnessed the fearful onslaught upon the peaceful little city, that late autumn day, as long as memory availeth them, or the roar of thunder and flash of lightning are heard and seen. The grass was an emerald green from the late rains and many leaves of the deciduous trees yet clung to the branches. All nature in its decadent beauty seemed to welcome the dreamy, hazy Indian summer. It was the eleventh day of the eleventh month of the eleventh year of the new century, November 11, 1911. A light, gentle breeze came up with the autumn sun that morning and ruffled the carpet of golden leaves upon the ground, and brought with it from the south the breath of spring. The few remaining migratory birds sang as blithely as though they had but just returned from their winter home. The sunlight was warm, and as the day wore on the warmth increased to heat. The gentle morning breeze grew into a strong wind. By mid-day the heat was intense, and the strong wind had become almost a hurricane. The air was filled with dust from the streets and highways, and with leaves from lawns and fields; whirling and dancing hither and thither, circling high, then dropping low, piling up upon the ground, lying quiet as if listening to the dismal moan of the wind in the bare tree tops; then a sudden depressing stillness. The rays of the sun beat more fiercely, the birds ceased their singing and stood with wings uplifted, panting for breath as in the scorching heat of summer. A light shadow overcast the sun. The barnyard fowls walked about uneasily, and turned their heads, casting their eyes towards the sun. The cattle and swine were restless; the children who played joyously with the whirling leaves, lost their interest. Their shouts and merry laughter were silenced. The men and women came out of their houses, or stopped their toil where they were, and looked at the skies. They searched the horizon and the arch above, but there was nothing but the horizon and the distant blue sky to see; nothing to hear but the occasional sigh of the wind that had become almost as gentle as the breeze of the early day. Yet in the very warmth there was a chill as of a seeming dread of approaching danger. The sun had passed the zenith and was hurrying towards the close of day, yet pouring down its heat with unabated force. The clocks on the mantels had struck the hour of four, and were ticking on unconcerned; they had nothing to do but point to man the passing of time. Then there was a rumbling in the south and west, a slight shiver among the trees, then a louder rumble, and a flash of lightning, scarcely visible above the glare of the sunlight. This was followed by a fiendish roar as of a multitude of fierce wild animals clutching their prey, mingled with the frantic, despairing shrieks of the victims. Trees were torn into shreds, and huge pieces of their mighty branches were hurled through the walls of houses whose roofs were already whirling and crashing through the air. Children were screaming in wildest terror for father and mother; men and women were crouching in fear beneath any object that offered protection against the infuriated, demoniacal elements. A darkness as of midnight swooped down upon the earth. Vehicles were overturned in the streets, and the horses drawing them were dragged down among the crashing debris of electric wires and poles and falling timbers. Cattle broke from their enclosures and rushed about in sheer madness of fright, mingling their discordant bawling with the roaring and screeching of the storm. Soon it was gone, as suddenly as it came, leaving utter and awful destruction in its wake.

WORST STORM EVER ENCOUNTERED HERE.

The storm struck the city of Virginia at its southwest corner, just grazing the west side of the high school building, and passed on to the northeast, demolishing everything in its path of nearly a quarter of a mile wide. It seemed to rise after it reached the northern edge of the town, and passed out over the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad depot, then reached down and tore up the large ice house, on the edge of Henderson Lake. Its fury was not yet satiated, as it turned on the row of beautiful shade trees along the highway to Walnut Ridge cemetery,

and ruined the most of them, and greatly damaged the houses and other buildings along the eastern side of the road. Then, lifting again slightly, but still running low enough to destroy many trees and buildings upon the farms for several miles along its path to the northeast, taking about the same direction as the cyclone of 1858, it went its way. The disastrous storm did not terminate with the passing of the cyclone, for a heavy downpour of rain set in that soon turned to a blizzard of snow, which made the work of rescue that had begun as soon as the cyclone passed, extremely difficult and disagreeable. The temperature rapidly dropped, and the streets, covered with wreckage, became a glare of ice. Every man in the town, however, and many of the women, began the search for the missing, and in a short time it was ascertained that no one had been killed, and very few injured, the only one seriously disabled being Mr. Otis Middleton, who had suffered a broken arm and collar bone, and two fractured ribs. The escape of many seemed almost miraculous. The three small children of William Whitaker, who lived in a two-story frame house in that part of town where the storm first struck, were in the second story of the building, and when found after the subsidence of the cyclone, were in the basement under furniture and bedding that had fallen with them in such a way as to protect them from the falling walls and timbers of the house, which was utterly demolished. Like all cyclones, this one was freakish. When it reached as far north as the center of the city it seemed to stretch out a long right arm and clutch the Methodist church, four blocks east, and the Mann hotel and livery barn, across the street south. The church was torn to pieces, leaving only a part of the north wall and the foundation standing. The large pipe organ, back of the pulpit near the center of the west side of the building, was uninjured. The third story of the hotel was blown off and the livery barn stripped of its covering. Roofs of several of the business houses were blown off, and a number of the shade trees in the City and Court House parks destroyed. Very little damage was done to any other buildings in that part of the city. George Leonard, who had been in the Literberry cyclone in 1883, was now living at Virginia, and being in the pathway of the storm again suffered, having his roof torn from his house and blown so far away he was unable to find any part of it. The chimney top went along with the roof, but this time he lost none of his household goods or wearing apparel.

The cyclone district presented a desolate sight the next morning, with the temperature down near zero, and the streets and yards filled with a strange mixture of household goods, broken windows, pieces of wagons, harness and buggies pinned under limbs of trees, twisted, shattered and splintered. How any human being passed through it all without injury is beyond comprehension. It was a sad day for many. The most of the destruction was among the smaller homes belonging to those who had struggled with adverse circumstances and conditions in life, and had finally secured for their waning years a small home, only to have it snatched away and ground to splinters in a moment without warning. These people were hopeless and in despair, with scarcely enough courage left to make them thankful that their lives had been spared. Aid was at hand. Homes were thrown open to those who had lost all or who were without shelter; and every man and mechanic who could wield a trowel or drive a nail proffered his assistance, and large contributions of money were made by sympathetic citizens and fraternal organizations. In a short time the wreckage was cleared away, homes were rebuilt, and although but a few years have passed since then, scarcely a trace is left of the most dreadful and most destructive storm ever experienced in Cass County.

OTHER METEOROLOGICAL EVENTS.

Until February, 1914, the great snowfall of 1830-31 was the most noted historical meteorological event in Illinois, but in the former year it was equalled if not surpassed. Washington's birthday, 1914, ended with the beginning of a fierce and prolonged snow storm. The winter had been unusually mild until the latter part of January, and even from then on, it was not regarded as being more than the ordinary winter weather of this latitude. The day did not give evidence of the approach of an extraordinary storm. The temperature from morning



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until 2 o'clock in the afternoon ranged at about 15 degrees Fahrenheit, but about that time the wind whirled from the west to the north, then to the northeast, and blew a perfect hurricane of snow. By sunset it was a most terrific blizzard, which continued the whole night long. When morning came there was no relief in sight, for there was no cessation of the storm. No sun appeared to warm the atmosphere. It seemingly kept out of sight and reach of the howling, screeching, crashing, shrieking, maniacal wind, filled with biting, freezing, tearing pellets of icy snow. All through the lengthened day it drove, with unabated fury, its icy pellets into every crevice of the houses and barns, sheds and sheltered nooks. On and on as if it never would and never intended to cease, it raged. On the morning of the third day, the sun rose bright and clear, looking down, however, upon a strange scene in Cass County, one the like of which it had not seen since the winter of 1830-31. The roads were full of snow from 4 to 6 feet deep. The road commissioners were obliged to employ a large force of men to literally cut the road open before there could be travel of any sort. For weeks the only roads were narrow driveways just wide enough for a team and wagon, with the snow banked high on either side. Railroad traffic was blocked. No mails came into the towns and villages of Cass County for many days. The railroad train on the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis road was snowbound in the prairie about a mile south of Virginia, and there remained for several days. Other engines brought to pull the train out, only found themselves stuck fast in the snow. On the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern road, three trains got into Virginia and were unable to go further until the road was cleared of the heavy fall of snow, and that was a herculean task that took several engines and many men working night and day for nearly a week. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road had similar trouble, but got through much sooner, as did likewise the Chicago & Alton, in the eastern part of the county. Had the conditions been similar to those of the "deep snow" and could a comparison have been made, it would have shown the snow of February, 1914, to have been of greater depth on a level, and a fiercer, more disagreeable storm than that of the early days about which early settlers delighted to talk, and historians loved to write.

CHAPTER XXIV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A RECENT BIRTHDAY—CENTURY OF WONDERFUL PROGRESS—DEVELOPMENT FROM PRIMITIVE LIFE TO THE HEIGHT OF MODERN CIVILIZATION—SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY HAVE JOINED HANDS—DRAINAGE—SUBMERGED LANDS—THOUSANDS OF ACRES UNDER WATER—NO PRIVATE DRAINAGE METHODS POSSIBLE—FORMATION OF DRAINAGE DISTRICTS BY STATE—SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE ADOPTED—SANDY SOILS UTILIZED TO GROW MELONS—COW PEA PLANTED—SUPPLIES NEEDED NITROGEN TO SOIL—ALL THIS LAND OF GREAT VALUE—CULTURAL INTERESTS—PEOPLE SOBER, COMFORTABLE, CONTENTED AND HAPPY—A POPULATION TABLE.

A RECENT BIRTHDAY.

Cass County was seventy-eight years old March 3, 1915, it having been created March 3, 1837. Twenty-three years prior to that time, or one hundred and one years ago, there was not a white man's dwelling, nor a white man living anywhere in the territory now comprised in the boundaries of Cass County. What similar progress in the way of civilization is there known to the present generation, or which may be exhibited to future generations by the pages of history, or in any manner, than that evinced in the remarkable record of this past century in Cass County.

If it were not proven by historical facts such advancement as has been made would seem incredible. Cass County, one hundred years ago, was an unbroken wilderness; now it is one of the garden spots of the world. Then it had nothing that civilization requires; now, with few exceptions, it has all that goes toward producing the most advanced conditions, in any part of the world. Science and industry have joined forces and Illinois can well be proud of the result.

DRAINAGE.

One of the most remarkable changes the years have brought, is the reclamation of what were once considered useless swamp lands, into

some of the most productive sections of the county. To be sure, Cass County is not alone in this reclamation work, but it has done its part well and is reaping vast benefits from this form of progressiveness.

Along the Sangamon and Illinois bottoms, when the county was first settled and up to within a very recent time, there were to be seen a large number of lakes and marshes, supplied with water by the annual overflow of the rivers and also by the waters from the creeks coming down from the hills. These made magnificent fishing and hunting resorts, but the land lying under the ponds and lakes was thought by people in general not to be of sufficient value for it to be reclaimed. In fact, it would have been utter folly for private owners to have made an attempt to redeem it. A new era came with the passage of the amendment to the state constitution which permitted the formation of drainage districts. Since that time many drainage districts have been formed in Cass County, and thousands of acres of land formerly overflowed and thought worthless, have been reclaimed and the whole face of nature, as it were, has been changed and beautified. Productive farms now flourish where formerly lived only the mosquito, and but rushes and wild onions could be grown.

SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE.

Many acres of the more sandy lands in the Illinois bottom were thought to be even more worthless than the submerged lands. It did not seem possible that anything could be grown upon them. A man came from the East, one who had some experience in cultivating similar soil, and he taught the people of Cass County how to raise garden truck for the market upon this land, which was found to be especially adapted for watermelons, muskmelons and sweet potatoes. Later the cow pea was introduced, and was found to be a very valuable crop not only for the market, but in building up the soil so that after a year or two of raising cow peas and turning under the foliage and straw of the plant, the land would produce fairly large crops of corn and oats. Thus by drainage and scientific cultivation, lands that had been worthless and sold for taxes, were redeemed, and have advanced in value until they are now held at $200 per acre.

CULTURAL INTERESTS.

Schools have been so developed that illiteracy is at a minimum and all classes have an equal opportunity for securing an education. The charities of the people are broad. Religious teaching and sentiment predominates and sectarian dissension and bitterness have largely disappeared. Citizens are no longer so closely bound by political party ties that they can see no good or merit in those holding different opinions from their own. Drunkenness and even intemperance is passing away. Taking conditions as a whole, the requirements of good citizenship are upon a much higher plane than ever before, and as far as local conditions go comfort, content and happiness are almost universal.

A POPULATION TABLE.

The following table gives the population of Cass County by decades from 1840 to 1910:

1840	2,981
1850	7,253
1860	11,325
1870	11,580
1880	14,494
1890	15,963
1900	17,222
1910	17,372

CHAPTER XXV.

ARENZVILLE PRECINCT.

FIVE MUNICIPALITIES IN CASS COUNTY—ARENZVILLE PRECINCT NAMED BEFORE CASS COUNTY WAS FORMED—ARENZVILLE INCORPORATED AS A VILLAGE IN 1893—GRISTMILL BUILT IN 1821 BY JAMES SMART—PURCHASED IN 1832 BY FRANCIS ARENZ—LAND BOUGHT AND PLATTED—FIRST ORGANIZATION OF TOWN IN 1853—FIRST BOARD OF TRUSTEES—FRANCIS ARENZ FIRST PRESIDENT—CHANGES IN AREA AND VALUES—EARLY SETTLERS—FRANCIS A. ARENZ—ADDITIONAL ENTERPRISES—ESTABLISHES FIRST NEWSPAPER—THE BEARDSTOWN AND SANGAMON CANAL COMPANY—ELECTED TO THE LEGISLATURE—BUSINESS DIRECT-

ORY OF 1860—RAILROAD IN 1870—DISASTROUS FIRE IN 1913—PRESENT PROSPERITY—NO CRIMINAL ELEMENT.

FIVE MUNICIPALITIES IN CASS COUNTY.

There are five municipalities in Cass County, organized as cities and villages, under the general law or charter, according to Act of 1872 of the Legislature. These are: Arenzville, Ashland, Beardstown, Chandlerville and Virginia, and will be taken up in the order named. They were all platted and organized and chartered by the legislature under special acts, for that was the method of incorporation prior to the Act of 1872. However, the many advantages accruing under the latter act were early recognized by each of the municipalities, and they soon discarded the original charter and re-incorporated under the general law.

ARENZVILLE.

Arenzville is organized as a village, under the general law, but as a hamlet or unincorporated town it has been in existence for many years. About 1821 James Smart found his way into that part of Morgan County, and seeing the need of a gristmill in that locality, and also being impressed with the natural advantages offered for water power on Indian Creek, erected a small mill which was a boon to the people scattered along the Illinois valley, and on the upland prairies to the east. On October 31, 1827, Mr. Smart entered the east half of section 31, and on April 6, 1829, the west half of the same section, and continued running his mill until August, 1831, when he sold his land to Bennet Smart. On July 30, 1832, Francis Arenz purchased the southeast quarter section, together with the mill, and operated it together with his other business interests, with very indifferent success, until about 1853 when he sold to Herman Engelbach and Peter Arenz.

In the meantime, Francis Arenz had laid off a few lots and sold them to settlers who formed the nucleus of the future thriving village. In 1852 Mr. Arenz had John Craig, the county surveyor of Cass County, survey and plat, together with the lots already sold, a part of the southeast quarter of section 31, township 17, range 11, for a town, to which he gave the name of Arenzville, although that part of Morgan County had been designated Arenzville Precinct for some time before Cass County was formed. Mr. Arenz certified to the plat and acknowledged it before his brother, John A. Arenz, a justice of the peace, June 26, 1852, and filed the plat for record on July 30 of the same year. Mr. Arenz died in 1856, and his executors, in the next year, made an addition to the town, naming it the "Addition of the Executors of Francis Arenz," and recorded the plat. In 1876, Thomas V. Finney, for a number of years circuit clerk of this county, made a complete plat of Arenzville, and the additions, which was recorded October 22, 1876. On May 22, 1878, the trustees of the village adopted the plat by ordinance, as the limits of the town. The first organization of the town was July 9, 1853, and a board of trustees elected. The first president of the board was Francis Arenz, while the clerk was Dr. Julius Philippi, the treasurer was Herman Engelbach, the supervisor was John Goebel, and the town constable was Charles Heintz.

CHANGES IN AREA AND VALUE.

When Arenzville Precinct was established it extended to the Illinois River, with the voting place at the town of Arenzville, but in 1857, the west part was cut off and made into a voting district or precinct, and named Indian Creek. There are three water courses traversing the precinct, Indian Creek the largest, which enters the county from Morgan County, just south of the village of Arenzville, and making a great bend north of the village runs in a westerly course, bearing a little north, and empties into the Illinois River; Clear Creek, which runs westerly across the center of the precinct into Indian Creek; and Mud Creek, which is a small tributary of Indian Creek, running from the south line of the precinct near Arenzville, northwesterly for about six miles. Both Indian Creek and Mud Creek overflowed badly and kept the lands west of Arenzville in a wet and unhealthful condition, and rendered it unfit for cultivation except in an unusually dry season. The land was too valuable to be left in that condition, and the enterprising farmers who owned it and had purchased it at a very low price, organized a drainage district about 1899 and have reclaimed the land, and now have hundreds of acres of excellent soil, producing abundant crops annually. Being now free from the fear of overflow and destruction from high waters, the farms have been well improved, and

the lands that formerly were scarcely saleable at any price, are now worth from $150 to $200 per acre.

The eastern portion of the precinct is very much broken until the prairie is reached about three miles from Arenzville. From that on to the east line of the precinct there is a fine open expanse of more or less level farming land of the highest value. The village is situated on the easterly side of Indian Creek, nestling against the high bluffs which terminate at the very edge of the eastern corporate limits. From these bluffs may be had an excellent view of the entire village, which presents a picturesque appearance, with its churches and school houses of architectural beauty, neat cottages and handsome residences, splendid business buildings and wide, clean, well-shaded streets and parks.

Besides those already mentioned who made this attractive place their home in an early day were: Pompious Philippi and his son, Dr. Julius Philippi, John Altman, Frederick Lang, Jacob Heinz, J. L. Cire, Omar Bowyer, Christian Lovekamp, Frederick Brauer, W. H. Houston, Frederick Lovekamp, Henry Wedeking, Isaac Drinkwater, Herman Lippert, Peter Schaaf, Charles Cooper, George Treadway, Victor Krueger, Henry Goodeking, Philip Yeck, George Hegener, Henry Lovekamp, Adam Schuman, William Tielkmier, Herman Lovekamp, Frederick Hackman, Herman Eberwein, Henry Menke, Charles Merz, Joseph Kircher, Dr. George Engelbach and his son, Herman Engelbach, and John Rahn. Many of the descendants of these pioneers yet remain in and about Arenzville and are the substantial citizens who, with others who have been attracted later to the village, have the credit for the progress and permanent growth of the village of Arenzville, and the rural districts surrounding it. Seven district schools beside the high school and the grade schools in the village, are maintained in the precinct; and the highways are kept in as good condition as the nature of the soil will permit. The old log cabins have all disappeared, and new modern farmhouses and outbuildings have taken their place. Everything shows such evidence of thrift and progress that could Francis Arenz, the early advocate of all these improvements, now look upon them, it would bring delight to the spirit of one who identified himself with every movement for the advancement of civilization in his community.

FRANCIS A. ARENZ.

Francis A. Arenz was born in Blankenburg, Province of the Rhine, Prussia, October 31, 1800. While yet a young man, he engaged in the mercantile business in his native country, and about 1827 emigrated to America, settling first in Kentucky, where he remained for two years engaged in merchandising. Learning of the lead mines of Galena, Ill., and the prospect of successful business deals in the lead line, he went to that point in 1829, but did not find conditions as satisfactory as he had hoped, and after a short stay in business there, he again sought a new location. A number of persons had come up to Galena from the southern part of Illinois, and also from the vicinity of Beardstown, then just laid out, and from descriptions of the place and its surroundings, Mr. Arenz believed that locality destined to be at least an excellent shipping point on the Illinois River. Arriving at Beardstown about 1831, he was very favorably impressed with the situation, and began at once to prepare for his permanent settlement. He engaged in his favorite pursuit of merchandising, and filled his store with everything he thought the people of the new country might need or be induced to buy. Among the goods bought in the East was a cargo of light, brass-barreled guns, which had been manufactured for a South American government, but did not meet the requirements, and so were sent west to Mr. Arenz. He expected to dispose of them to the settlers for shooting water fowl, and like birds, but a more fortunate condition arose in the matter of trade. The Black Hawk war broke out and many of the soldiers called to rendezvous at Beardstown, found themselves without arms, and the state had none with which to supply them. Mr. Arenz tendered his brass-barreled guns to Governor Reynolds, who was on the ground in charge of the troops, and they were immediately purchased, at a handsome profit for Mr. Arenz. He also furnished many other supplies to the soldiers.

ADDITIONAL ENTERPRISES.

After the close of the Indian outbreak, and normal conditions had returned to river traffic, Mr. Arenz thought it would be an excellent idea to establish a newspaper, which he did, calling it the Beardstown Chronicle and Illinois Bounty



BREAKING THE SOIL WITH A TRACTION ENGINE
ON A CASS COUNTY FARM



DISKING THE STUBBLE GROUND



WHEAT AND CORN FIELDS



FARM TEAM AT WORK IN THE FIELD



WHEAT IN THE STACK READY FOR THE THRESHER,
CASS COUNTY FARM



STEAM THRESHING OUTFIT AT WORK



BALING THE THRESHED STRAW

Land Advertiser. The paper was conducted for a year under the management of John B. Fulks, then sold and the plant was moved to Rushville. The Illinois legislature had declared the Sangamon River a navigable stream, and Mr. Arenz thought it would be well to shorten the distance and make a more direct route to Beardstown by cutting a canal across to Miller's Ferry. He secured a charter from the state in 1836, incorporating the Beardstown and Sangamon Canal Company, and was made its president, with Dr. O. M. Long of Beardstown, one of the earliest physicians of the county, as secretary. A brother of Mr. Arenz, John A. Arenz, was one of the chief engineers. A survey was made, but the panic of that period coming on, caused the project to fail. The majority of Mr. Arenz's many enterprises were very successful, but one that did not prove satisfactory financially, was the gristmill which he bought of Mr. Smart. In 1835 he closed his mercantile business at Beardstown, and moved to his farm about six miles southeast from Beardstown, where he constructed a substantial house of unique design. It was built on high ground, along the upland bordering the wide Illinois River bottom, and gave a splendid view of that expanse of rich alluvial land which has since become as valuable a tract as any farm land in the state. He remained there until 1839, when he moved to the village to which he had given the name of Arenzville, and there he lived until his death. He delighted in politics, and was an ardent Whig. A man of excellent education, he was a fairly good writer, frequently contributing to the local and state newspapers. No legislature of the state assembled without Mr. Arenz being present.

ELECTED TO THE LEGISLATURE.

In 1844, while living at Arenzville, Mr. Arenz was elected a member of the lower house of the General Assembly from Morgan County, Arenzville being then in the territory known as the Three Mile Strip. Mr. Arenz added his influence to that of Cass County's representatives, and secured that strip for Cass County, but he was not re-elected to the assembly. In 1852 he was sent to his native land by President Fillmore, as bearer of dispatches to the American legations at Berlin and Vienna. In 1853 he assisted in organizing the State Agricultural Society, and continued a member of it during the remainder of his life. He also helped to organize the Cass County Fair Association and became its first president. Mr. Arenz did not live to see all his hopes and ambitions fulfilled, and laid down the burdens and responsibilities of his busy life at Arenzville, April 2, 1856. Resolutions of respect were adopted by the executive committee of the state board of agriculture and they were published in all the Springfield, Jacksonville and Cass County papers, and copied in many others of the state.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY OF 1860.

Arenzville did not grow fast to any great extent, but was the center of a large German settlement, many of whom were not farmers, but had been well educated to other lines of business in their native land. On coming to this country they thought it would be an easy matter to engage in agricultural pursuits, the soil and climatic conditions being so far superior for that purpose to that of their own land, but few indeed remained farmers, the most of them gathering in the villages. Some remained at Arenzville and some went elsewhere to engage in the various pursuits to which they had been trained in their youth. A business directory published in 1860, gives the following for Arenzville: J. B. Glass, physician and surgeon; Charles E. Yeck and Bro., merchants and grocers; J. L. Cire, merchant and justice of the peace; H. Engelbach, merchant and miller; Charles Coerper, miller; H. Schaeffer, boot and shoe dealer; Charles Pilney, carpenter and cabinet-maker; N. Brill and S. Gephardt, wagonmakers and blacksmiths; and A. Boehme, merchant. In 1870 the railroad was built through from Beardstown to St. Louis, and the village began to expand. It became a shipping point for all the products grown in a large area of country, and on February 13, 1893, it was incorporated as a village under the general law, and is now quite a prosperous community. It had, for a number of years, a brewery and several saloons, but at the village election in 1914, with the assistance of the women voters, the saloons were voted out. On December 24, 1913, about midnight a disastrous fire occurred which destroyed a great number of the business houses, but they were rapidly rebuilt.

At the present time there are at Arenzville, an excellent flouring mill, four grocery stores, three general stores, two dry goods stores, two

drug stores, two harness dealers, two hardware and agricultural implement stores, two butcher shops, three blacksmith and repair shops, one jewelry store, three restaurants, two hotels, two physicians, a telephone exchange, four churches, grade and high schools, one weekly newspaper, two banks, one lumber yard that handles general merchandise as well, two barber shops, one garage, a brick yard, and several masons, carpenters and painters. It has one policeman and one calaboose, neither being in great demand.

CHAPTER XXVI.

ASHLAND PRECINCT.

SITUATION—TOWN OF LANCASTER LAID OUT IN 1837 BY JOHN DUTCH—THE HALFWAY HOUSE—EARLY REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS — WHOLE DUTCH PLAT VACATED IN 1843—PRECINCT CALLED LANCASTER UNTIL 1876—PETERSBURG & TONICA RAILROAD—TOWN OF ASHLAND LAID OUT—NAMED FOR HENRY CLAY'S KENTUCKY HOME—NEW RAILROAD BROUGHT PROSPERITY—BOUNDARIES—TOWN INCORPORATED — VILLAGE CHARTER GRANTED IN 1869—FIRST VILLAGE OFFICERS—BALTIMORE & OHIO SOUTHWESTERN RAILROAD—VILLAGE INCORPORATED IN JUNE, 1897—BY POPULATION ENTITLED TO ORGANIZE AS A CITY—ARISES FROM FIRE RUINS—RAPID STRIDES FORWARD—UNSURPASSED TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

SITUATION.

Ashland Precinct occupies the southeast corner of the county, and is wholly within the prairie district of the county. It was formerly included in the old Lancaster Precinct, wherein was the town of Lancaster, laid out by John Dutch, in May, 1837. He built there the tavern known as the "Halfway House," as it was about half way between Beardstown and Springfield. Dutch sold half of his town to Erastus W. Palmer, who, in a year, sold one of the lots for a dollar and turned the rest back to Mr. Dutch and disappeared. Some say the entire plat of land or lots was conveyed to Palmer for $400. However as that may be, he received the full value of the one lot for business or town purposes. The plat covered the greater portion of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 25, township 17, range 9, west. Mr. Dutch built a few other houses, besides his own residence, in which he kept the tavern, but there was so little to attract anyone to that bleak spot in the open prairie that the place was soon abandoned, so far as any attempt to make a town of it was concerned. In 1843 the plat was vacated. The precinct bore the name of Lancaster, however, until 1876. The Duling house on the north side of the public highway near the flag station Guerney, is on the site of the old Halfway House. It is said that John Dutch went back to the east from which he had emigrated after having been a sea captain, and there took up a collection to build a church. He really did build a church at Lancaster, but it was later moved away and used as a barn.

ASHLAND VILLAGE NAMED.

The village of Ashland is the youngest born of all the towns and villages in Cass County. In 1857 the Petersburg and Tonica Railroad was surveyed through that part of Cass County, and the same year a land company composed of James L. Beggs, Elmore Crow, William G. Spears, Richard Yates, the famous war governor, and others, laid out the town of Ashland upon lands owned by Beggs and Crowe. As they were all Whigs and worshipped in greater or less degree the idol of that party, Henry Clay, who had a home in Kentucky which he called Ashland, these promoters gave their new town the name of Ashland in honor of the great compromiser. Ashland proved a success to an extent that surpassed the best wishes of its friends. It did not suffer the fate of some of the other early towns. The railroad actually was built as proposed, and lots were soon disposed of in great numbers; people came to it for permanent settlement. They could get to Jacksonville, or Bloomington, and even to Chicago by the new railroad, and it was also on the state road or public highway to Springfield, with a first class stage line running every day.

BOUNDARIES.

The boundaries of the village as given on the plat are as follows: Commencing at a point one-fourth of a mile due west of the southeast corner of section 29, township 17, range 8, west,

in the county of Cass, running thence due north one-half mile, thence due east one mile, thence due south one mile, thence due west one mile, thence due north one-half mile to the point of starting. It contained 144 blocks besides the public squares and commons. There was but one house on the lands platted, it being the residence of Mr. Crowe, who was a farmer and had a splendid crop of corn that year. The house is still standing and it is used as a residence, although for many years it was the Douglas Tavern, or boarding house. About forty buildings were erected in the town the first year, and the sale of lots amounted to over $100,000. W. R. Hunter became the first merchant and built a store on Main street. About the same time William Goble and Alexander Mansfield opened a store, but after a few years became embarrassed and retired in favor of the sheriff, who kindly disposed of their stock of goods. Crowe, Beggs and Spears, three of the original town proprietors, built the Brick Hotel which is still used for hotel purposes. Blacksmith and wagon and repair shops were built soon after the organization of the town. Schools and churches were organized, as previously related in separate chapters, and the village continued to grow. It only had one general store, however, from 1863 to 1865. A post office had been established, and Mr. Hunter, the merchant, was appointed postmaster.

By 1869 the place had reached such a stage of population and business that the people thought best to have it incorporated. On January 18 of that year a meeting was called and a vote taken on the question of incorporation, which resulted in thirty-five votes for and four against. Pursuant thereto application was made and on April 19, 1869, a village charter was granted from the state. The first village officers were Stephen Barnes, president; W. R. Hunter, clerk; J. G. Smith, police magistrate, and James L. Beggs, A. L. Corson and J. G. Smith, trustees.

In 1871, the railroad which is now the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern, was built from Beardstown to Springfield through Ashland, and this gave the village additional opportunity for progress. In the meantime the new state constitution had taken effect, and the legislature had, pursuant to its authority, provided for general incorporation of cities and villages. No provision was made for incorporating towns, so there are no towns in the state under the general law. Ashland soon saw the advantages of being under the general law, and on December 28, 1872, took a vote upon the proposition whether it should incorporate under the new law, or not. The result of the vote was forty for the proposition, and fourteen against, and the village was incorporated as of that date, but did not see fit to have its charter granted. The legislature by an amended act in 1895, authorized the secretary of state to issue certificates of incorporation upon the filing of transcripts of organization proceedings, and a certificate was issued to Ashland, June 1, 1897. By the census of 1880 Ashland had a population of only 609. It now has over 1,200, and is entitled to organize as a city any time it sees fit to do so.

ARISES FROM FIRE RUINS.

In 1877 a fire visited the village and swept away the larger portion of the business houses, the common fate sooner or later of all cities and villages that do not have an adequate water supply and fire protection. Ashland, like all other places where there are courageous citizens, soon had buildings of a better character above the ashes of the old ones.

Ashland has made rapid strides in a business way and now has four churches, two banks, graded and high schools, one weekly newspaper, three dry goods stores, two drug stores, four groceries, two furniture stores, one hardware store, three grain elevators, three barber shops, two harness shops, two butcher shops, three restaurants, two hotels, two millinery stores, one book and stationery store, one lumber yard, a telephone exchange, one undertaker, several notaries public, one livery and feed barn, one garage, four physicians, and one dentist. It has Odd Fellow, Masonic and Woodmen lodges, while its private residences are away above the average of village and small city property. The village is but twelve miles from Virginia, the county seat, twenty-one miles from Springfield, the state capital, and sixteen miles from Jacksonville, and 200 miles from Chicago, and whenever the people desire to visit any of these places, they find excellent accommodations at the Union depot in the northeast corner of the village, where twelve passenger trains stop daily.

CHAPTER XXVII.

BEARDSTOWN PRECINCT.

LARGEST MUNICIPALITY IN COUNTY—ELI COX THE EARLIEST SETTLER—LANDS ENTERED BY THOMAS BEARD AND ENOCH C. MARCH—A CLAIM MADE OF EARLIER OWNERSHIP — DOWNING'S LANDING — QUARTER SECTIONS MADE NECESSARY BY RIVER'S COURSE—ORIGINAL TOWN OF BEARDSTOWN PLATTED — DESCRIPTION — SUBSEQUENT ADDITIONS — SCHOOL LANDS DONATED BY CONGRESS—FIRST TOWN ORGANIZATION—FIRST BOARD OF TRUSTEES—REORGANIZATION AS A TOWN—LIST OF TOWN OFFICIALS—LEGISLATURE OF 1857 FIXES CORPORATE LIMITS OF TOWN—OAKWOODS' CEMETERY ASSOCIATION—OFFICIALS OF SAME—THE GERMAN LITERARY ASSOCIATION — OBJECT AND OFFICIALS—GASLIGHT AND COKE COMPANY—INCORPORATORS — BEARDSTOWN HISTORICALLY IMPORTANT — OLD LANDMARKS RECALLED — FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE STILL STANDING—PARK HOTEL—OLD OPERA HOUSE—TWO MODERN THEATERS—BUSINESS MEN AND FIRMS FIFTY YEARS AGO—CITY ADOPTS GENERAL CHARTER IN 1897—LIST OF CITY OFFICIALS—A FINE PUBLIC UTILITY—BEARDSTOWN WATER COMPANY — ARTESIAN WELL—POSTAL FACILITIES—STREET PAVING—PUBLIC LIBRARY—FISHING INTERESTS—MANY VARIETIES OF FISH—BLACK BASS PLENTIFUL—GERMAN CARP MARKETED IN NEW YORK—PEARL FISHERIES — A RECENT INDUSTRY—REAL PEARLS FOUND—A PARIS MARKET—BEARDSTOWN AN INDUSTRIAL CENTER—RAILROAD DIVISION POINT—LUMBER MILLS—PRESENT PRINCIPAL BUSINESS CONCERNS—STEEL WAGON AND FOOT BRIDGE—BRIGHT FUTURE.

LARGEST MUNICIPALITY IN COUNTY.

Beardstown is the largest municipality within the county limits, and its history has been almost completely told throughout the foregoing pages, in fact the beginning of the history of the territory now comprised in Cass County was at Beardstown, although there was a settler, Eli Cox, who came to the east end of the county a few years before Thomas Beard located at the Mound Village. The lands upon which Beardstown is built were entered by Thomas Beard and Enoch C. March, although it is frequently stated, following no doubt upon the undisputed statement made by some early settler, that the lands were originally owned by a man named Downing. The records do not show the title to any part of these lands to have been at any time in any one named Downing. Some of the early settlers spoke of a Downing's Landing being the site of Beardstown, but even this cannot be verified. The records of the land office show that Thomas Beard and Enoch C. March entered the northeast fractional quarter of section 15, township 18, range 12, west, on September 23, 1826, and on October 8, 1827, the same parties entered the northwest fractional quarter of the same section containing fifty and a fraction acres. These quarters of the section were made fractional by reason of the Illinois River running in a southwesterly course and cutting off the northwest portion of the section.

ORIGINAL TOWN OF BEARDSTOWN PLATTED.

On October 10, 1827, Mr. Beard alone entered the east half of the southwest quarter of section 15, township 18, north, range 12, west. The original town of Beardstown was platted and laid out in September, 1829. The certificate bears date of September 9, 1829, and was recorded the same day, and states that the plat is on the north fractional half of section 15, township 18, north, range 12, west, in Morgan County, Ill. The original town contained 175 lots lying adjacent to the river, extending southward. The explanation states that Main street's course is north 52 degrees east, and vice versa. March and Beard made an addition to the town, March 6, 1833, containing 268 lots, one of the blocks being on the easterly side, and the remainder south and west. On May 9, 1836, Thomas Beard and Nolte A. Ware made another addition, Ware certifies by his attorney in fact, Francis A. Arenz. John Ayers made a small addition on July 19, 1836, and in July, 1837, Beard and Arenz made an addition. Havekluft & Ehrhardt, Clendennin and Denison, Ravenswood and several others made small additions.

Section 16, which, by act of Congress, was donated to each township for school purposes, had but a very small portion in the county. Under the terms of the same act, other land might be donated in lieu of section 16, or portions of it, that had been sold or disposed of or



Harrison Hines



Annetta Hines

was not in existence, and pursuant to that provision of the law, Congress donated portions of section 15 in township 18 north, range 12 west. These lands were, by the school commissioners of Morgan County, platted and sold for the benefit of the schools of township 18, range 12.

The first town organization was in 1834, when a board of trustees was elected, consisting of Haywood Reed, president; John B. Fulks, then the manager of the first newspaper in the county, clerk; Edward Tull, assessor; Martin S. Trent, collector; Isaac Spence, treasurer; and William Nelms, supervisor. In September of that year the first ordinances for the government of the town were enacted. This organization existed until under an act of the legislature passed February 10, 1849, there was a reorganization as a town; on February 4, 1850, the proposition was adopted, and the following persons elected as officers: mayor, John A. Arenz; aldermen: First Ward, Thomas Eyre, father of William Eyre, who has had charge of the courthouse at Virginia as janitor for several years, and Jesse Riggins; Second Ward, James Hope and Joseph Stehlin; Third Ward, George Guenther and Jacob Ritcher. Sylvester Emmons was appointed clerk, Dr. T. A. Hoffman treasurer, and Eli S. Houghton was appointed marshal. Some doubts having arisen concerning the legality of organization, the legislature of 1857, by an act approved February 16 of that year, legalized the incorporation, and all official acts of its officers, and, by section 4 of the act, fixed the corporate limits of the town as follows: "That hereafter the corporate limits of the city of Beardstown shall embrace a territory of one and one-half miles square, extending three-fourths of a mile from the center of the public square, east, west, north and south, unless where said line interferes with the Illinois River, and there the boundary of said city shall run to the middle of the channel of said river; provided, that where the new territory included by this act shall not be laid off into lots or out-lots, said territory so annexed shall not be subject to taxation for city purposes without the consent of the owners of the land not laid off into lots or out-lots."

On the same day the above act was approved, another act was passed and approved, establishing the "Beardstown Oakwoods' Cemetery Association" near Beardstown. Dr. Charles Sprague, Christopher H. C. Havekluft, Horace Billings, Henry E. Dummer, Ebenezer Fish, William Chase, Edward Parker, Charles Norbury and Thomas Eyre, and their associates and successors were created a body corporate and politic, under said name.

On February 11, 1857, the legislature granted a charter incorporating "The German Literary Association of the City of Beardstown," and constituted C. H. C. Havekluft, Frederick Ehrhardt, Frederick Krohe, Ferdinand Gibbers, Alexander Lammers, Emil Lippert, and Joseph Strehlin, and their associates and successors, a body corporate and politic by that name. The object of the corporation was stated to be "to unite Germans of all creeds and classes in a literary bond of brotherhood and mutual friendship, in the pursuits of science and literature."

Encouraged by the good will of the legislature towards them, a number of these same citizens, with others, were emboldened to ask and received from the legislature at the same session on February 16 a charter for the Beardstown Gas Light and Coke Company. The incorporators were: C. H. C. Havekluft, Charles Sprague, Horace Billings, Thomas Eyre, Henry E. Dummer, Francis Rearick and J. Henry Shaw.

The history of Beardstown, as before stated, has been so fully covered in preceding chapters that nearly all that may be said would be but a repetition which could serve no especially interesting purpose. Every subject touched upon heretofore was not considered in any sense complete without the inclusion of historical and interesting matters pertaining to Beardstown. It has been a most important place in the settlement of Illinois; the earliest French voyageurs made a settlement here; the mound builders located some of their most beautiful mounds upon its site; here their successors, the American Indians, pitched their tents and built their wigwams, and used it as a center of a most happy hunting ground, and here, into their midst, came the founder of Beardstown, Thomas Beard, who laid the foundation of the present splendid city. The subject of early industries, business enterprises, banks, schools, churches and railroads, discussed in former pages with the necessarily brief biographical notices of the men who have made Beardstown what it is, have presented to the reader as full a historical review of that city as the limits of this work will permit.

OLD LANDMARKS RECALLED.

For the benefit of succeeding generations there should be some record of present conditions of the city. Like most cities, the value of building lots, especially the business lots, increase in value as the city grows older, if there be any material progress, and as a consequence the first buildings, which were well enough when erected, must give way to more modern as well as to more commodious ones. The first buildings erected at Beardstown have nearly all disappeared, and most of those erected by the second and third generation. The first flouring mills, the great warehouses along the river bank, owned by so many firms whose names are now almost forgotten; the great packing houses and retail store buildings, all have disappeared, and the very spots where they stood are now often in dispute. Some of the older people will recall the large two-story brick building of C. A. Bussman, known as the sash, blind and door manufactory, and the Phoenix Foundry, Machine Shop and Agricultural Works, of Thomas Webb & Co. Then later was the great distillery owned by McCormick, which was burned in the early seventies. The first schoolhouse is still standing, it being the brick house on Sixth street, known as the Dr. T. A. Hoffman residence and laboratory. The Park Hotel, built in 1853, is still one of the most substantial buildings in the city. It was put up by Horace Billings, and was away out of proportion to the size of the city at that time, in fact it was such a financial failure that at one time it was given over rent free to a tenant who would look after it and keep up the insurance. The city finally grew up to the building, and since Martin McDonough, the present owner, obtained possession of it, has been a great financial success, and is maintained and known among the traveling public as one of the best hotels in central Illinois. The old opera house which stood on the northeast corner of State and Second streets, and which had been remodeled by the Opera House Company, and used as the only place for entertainments for many years, has recently been abandoned; and though the building is a substantial one, and used as a storeroom on the first floor by a firm of clothing dealers, the room above used as the opera house has been taken over for storage and warerooms. Two splendid new theatre buildings have been erected, with the entertainment rooms on the ground floor. They are on lots 5 and 6 in block 32, original town, one facing west on State street, and the other south on Fourth street. New churches, new schoolhouses, new business buildings, and hundreds of new residences have been built until now little if any of the old or first Beardstown, and scarcely any of the second remains. While there is a feeling of sentiment connected with those old historic buildings and scenes, that feeling has to yield to the inevitable onward march of progress.

BUSINESS FIFTY YEARS AGO.

As an indication of the business situation, and also for the purpose of comparison with present conditions, a list of the most generally remembered business firms and professions are given as they appeared in 1860. This list includes: Attorneys-at-law Henry E. Dummer, Thomas M. Thompson, Thomas H. Carter, C. H. Housekeeper, J. H. Shaw, James M. Epler and G. Pollard; Doctors Charles E. Parker, F. Ehrhardt, H. H. Littlefield, J. R. Dowler, John Fee; T. A. Hoffman, chemist and physician; E. S. Carter and D. Whitney, surgeon dentists; Shurtleff & Jones, publishers Beardstown Democrat; Thompson, Fulks and Irwin, publishers Weekly Illinoisan; C. H. C. Havekluft, county judge; J. A. Arenz, notary public and magistrate; Thomas S. Wiles, notary public and magistrate; Thomas M. Thompson, notary public; S. Emmons, magistrate and land agent; L. F. Sanders, fire and life insurance agent; D. C. Meigs, insurance agent; C. H. Housekeeper, police magistrate; I. H. Harris, land agent; Sanders & Stettenus, Treadway & Bro., Adam Fisher and J. Livermore, dealers in boots and shoes; Thomas B. Clayton, Christian French, William H. Ewing, blacksmiths; proprietors of brick yards, Fred Potter and John Baujan; J. C. Leonard & Co., bankers; hotels, Park House, H. Billings; National House, C. P. Dunbaugh; Virginia House, Campbell & Goodloe; and Farmer's House, G. Thompson; druggists, Menke & Fletcher, William Whipp, and Rice & Maxwell; dealers in general merchandise, D. M. Irwin, Chase, Parker & McLaughlin, Ed. P. Chase, Dutch & Brother, George Plahn & Co., Leonard Montgomery & Co., Nolte & McClure, M. L. Read & Co., George Kuhl, Isaac W. Overall, C. F. Frauman, C. Nicholson, G. F. Sielschott, H. Boemler, Alexander Lammers, C. H. Seegar, John Quigg; dealers in stoves and hardware, F. H.

Rearick & Bro.; H. B. De Sollar, and C. F. Morton; dealers in lumber, H. F. Foster & Co., Hitchcock & Montgomery; dealers in groceries, Low & Billings, wholesale and retail, Thompson & Eames; commission merchants, Fred Krohe, J. C. Eberwein, and R. F. Knippenberg; Thom, Webb & Co., proprietors of the Phoenix foundry and machine shop; C. A. Bussman, manufacturer of sash, doors and blinds; H. Mohlmann & Co., manufacturers of sash, doors and blinds; Durand & Co., undertakers and manufacturers of all kinds of cabinet ware; Benjamin Eyre & Treadway, manufacturers of wagons and plows; H. B. De Sollar, manufacturer of carriages and wagons; J. H. Pfeil, manufacturer of carriages and wagons; A. Wetterau, wagons and plows; C. H. Bockmeier, manufacturer of plows; John Lehmberger, manufacturer of cigars and tobacco; A. J. Wevers, cigar manufacturer; G. W. Weaver, proprietor of steam sawmill; Fish, proprietor of flouring mill; E. S. Houghton, proprietor of flouring mill; W. E. Pearce, proprietor of flouring mill; and Rearick, proprietor of flouring mill.

ADOPTS GENERAL CHARTER.

The city continued to operate under its special charter until February 17, 1896, when, by vote, it adopted the general charter under the state constitution of 1870, and the law pursuant thereof, receiving its charter May 17, 1897. The first city officers were: mayor, W. H. Rhineberger; clerk, W. G. Smith; attorney, R. R. Hewitt; treasurer, Anton Rink; aldermen: First Ward, Ernest Boles and Sylvester Wiles; Second Ward, Edward W. Weddeking and Daniel Dresser; Third Ward, Theo. Schaar and J. A. Henning; Fourth Ward, John Madine and Henry Nieman.

A FINE PUBLIC UTILITY.

In 1892, when Henry M. Schmoldt was mayor, the city provided for a city water plant and a complete system of waterworks, which has proven very successful. The city from that time on has been furnished at a very reasonable rate with abundance of most excellent water. The water tower consists of a steel reservoir, 48 feet high, with diameter of base 11 feet, 7 inches, and standing on a brick tower or foundation 68 feet high, making a total height of water tower 116 feet, and giving ample pressure to the water in the miles of water mains throughout the city. The water system was really installed by the Beardstown Water Company, and then taken over by the city by virtue of an ordinance passed for the purpose, July 21, 1892. The city officers then were: mayor, Henry M. Schmoldt; clerk, Christian Pilger; attorney, Milton McClure; treasurer, A. H. Sielschott. The aldermen were: William DeHaven, George Barneycastle, L. W. Pilger, W. H. Rhineberger, W. S. Glover, Theo. Schaar, G. F. Frauman and William Deppe, all of whom are now deceased, except George Barneycastle and W. H. Rhineberger, but they have left an enduring monument to their enterprise and cleverness.

ARTESIAN WELL.

An artesian well was also sunk in the city and a good supply of medicinal waters is had from a well that perpetually bubbles up on the south side of the public square near the public library.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

The postal facilities of Beardstown are excellent. The postoffice is now located in a rented building at No. 102 W. Main street, but the government has provided for erecting its own building and to that end has secured title to the lot on the northeast corner of Main and State streets, being lot 5 of block 15, in the original town. E. S. Nicholson is the present postmaster, and his assistant is Miss Hattie Fisher, who has held that office for sixteen years. Three clerks are kept busy with the large amount of business handled at this office, notwithstanding the fact that there has been, since 1910, a free delivery system for the city, employing four carriers. There are also three rural routes out from Beardstown.

STREET PAVING.

In December, 1906, the city council provided an ordinance for street paving and filed a petition in the county court for paving certain of the principal and most frequently used streets. They did not stop at that, but proceeded rapidly, forming district after district and completing the work of each until now all the principal streets and cross streets are covered with as splendid a brick pavement as can be found in

any city of the state. Concrete sidewalks are laid upon most of the streets, replacing the old board and rough brick walks that had served their day; beautiful shade trees have been grown in the parkways between the pavement and the sidewalks, and with the handsome new modern residences make any of the principal residence streets charming.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

In 1901 the citizens of Beardstown organized a public library. The organization was completed January 29 of that year. Many volumes were purchased and rooms rented, but the organization believed there should be an especial building for the library and a public reading room and in 1904 erected a substantial and handsome building on the lot adjoining the City Hall on the west. The organization is known as the Beardstown Library Association, and now has 5,000 volumes, besides papers and periodicals. Edward T. Hunter is the secretary of the association.

FISHING INTERESTS.

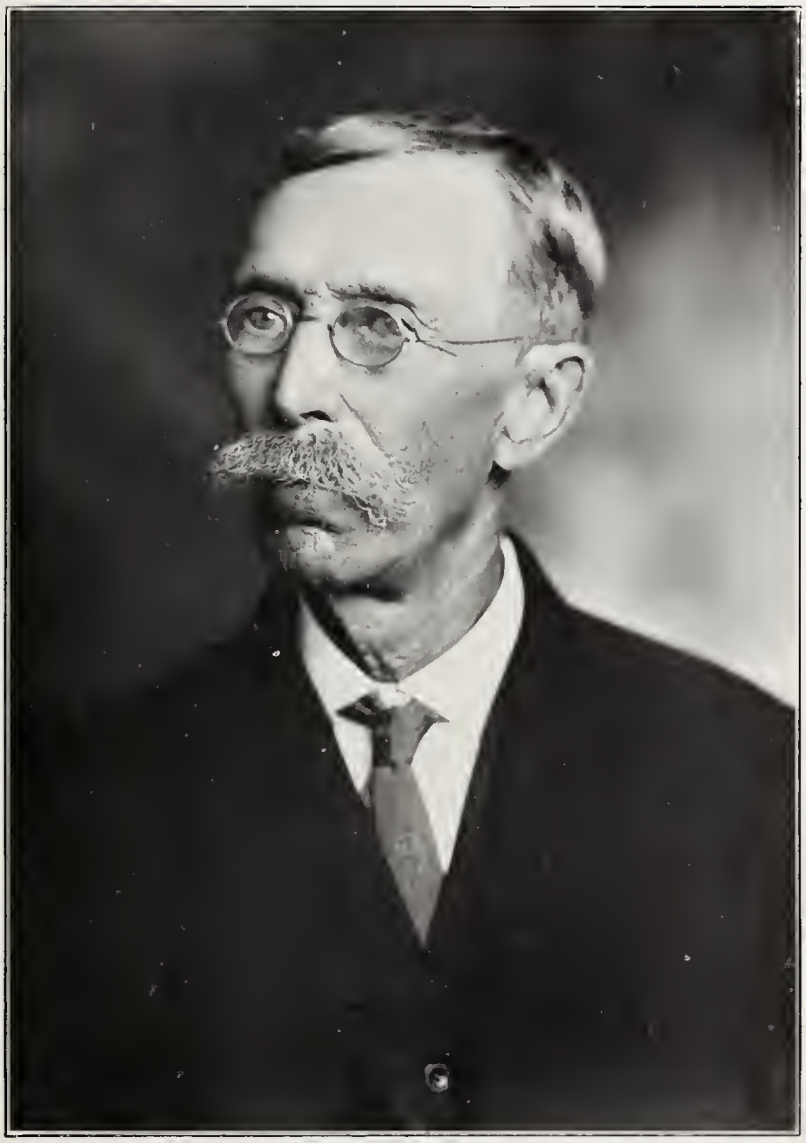
The Illinois River is noted as being the greatest producer of fresh water fish in the whole United States. Many thousands of pounds are taken annually, and shipped to eastern markets. Beardstown has, for years, been one of the shipping points and it seems almost incredible the amount of fish taken and shipped from this city annually. A large number of men are engaged in the business, and some of the catches have reached as high as from 75,000 to 100,000 pounds. Charles Cole and the Beardstown Fish Company do the largest business in catching and shipping fish, although some individuals have had at times a great harvest in that line. Henry Balduff, living south of Beardstown, and owning a small lake, in 1909 caught and delivered to the Beardstown Fish Company, $4,800 worth of fish at one haul, and his total sales for that season amounted to over $12,000. A great variety of river fish are caught, among the more valuable and marketable fish being the black bass. In 1903 a company of fishermen caught and delivered to the Beardstown Fish Company, at one haul, 2,100 pounds of black bass. The German carp, which formerly were hardly known in the western waters, now form one of the best and most marketable varieties for the market, and are shipped altogether to the New York market, and annually a large number of car loads are sent out from Beardstown fisheries, practically all shipments going by rail.

A RECENT INDUSTRY.

Another of the river industries at Beardstown is the pearl fisheries. This industry did not develop until about 1906. Mussel shells had been lying in great banks in the bed of the river for ages without a thought from anyone of their commercial value. It was found that remunerative prices could be obtained for the shells at the factories, where they were cut into forms for making pearl buttons, they bringing from $12 to $20 per ton. A factory was established and conducted for some time at Beardstown, where the buttons were finished ready for the market, but now only the blanks are cut out of the shells. There are three factories cutting blanks and thus a local market is always ready to receive and pay good prices to the mussel fishers for their product. There are many fishermen engaged in this industry. Sometimes as many as 200 may be seen in their mud scows with their paraphernalia moving slowly down the stream, dragging their four-pronged hooks, and transferring their catches to the boats. Pearls are not found in all the shells, but some very valuable finds have occurred, the highest priced one so far as can be recalled by those apprised of the facts, was one that brought the finder $2,200. Many others have been taken out that brought at the local market all the way from $5 to the price above mentioned. Even the "little stuff," as it is termed by the sellers and buyers, is saleable, but only by the ounce. It brings from $1 to $2 per ounce. This class of pearls is sent to Paris, France, and used to ornament ladies' gowns. Several pearl buyers come to Beardstown annually, during the pearl fishing season, and are ready to purchase and pay cash for any and all sorts of pearls.

AN INDUSTRIAL CENTER.

Beardstown is the division point of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, which has its shops and roundhouses here, and employs a large number of men. Including trainmen who make their home at Beardstown, there are probably more than 1,200 men employed by this



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railroad during the year. The next largest industry is the Schmoldt Cooperage works and lumber mills, owned by Adolph E. Schmoldt, who employs from 300 to 400 men, according to seasonable work. Beardstown has a population of over 7,000 and has grown too large to admit of enumerating the business interests in detail, but that the reader may have some notion of the great growth and progress of the city since 1860, reference is here made to the principal concerns. Beardstown has, in 1915, the following business houses and industries: three agricultural implement dealers, four automobile establishments, two bakeries, three banks, eight barber shops, four book and stationery stores, five building material and hardware firms, three building and loan associations, two button manufacturers, seven tobacco and cigar factories and stores, two steam laundries, five clothing stores, five drug stores, six coal dealers, seven confectioners, twenty-four contractors and builders, eight dry goods stores, four electrical supply firms, four furniture stores, twenty-eight grocery stores, two harness dealers, seven hotels, two jewelers, three livery barns, three lumber yards, eight meat markets, five millinery stores, twenty-three saloons, two hospitals and sanitariums, six shoe dealers and many other dealers who handle a variety of articles and merchandise. The professions are well represented as follows: three civil engineers, five dentists, eight lawyers, as follows: Hon. J. Joseph Cooke, judge of the city court; Henry Phillips, master-in-chancery of Circuit and city court; W. H. Dieterich, L. W. Felker, R. R. Hewitt, Lloyd M. McClure, B. F. Thacker, and Charles A. Schaeffer, attorneys. The physicians and surgeons are: Drs. Bley & Bley, the firm being composed of Dr. George Bley and his son, Dr. Walter Bley; and Drs. T. G. Charles, P. A. Brandon, Henry Ehrhardt, R. H. Garm, J. F. Jones, M. J. Palmer, T. J. Schweer and Charles E. Soule.

With all the above excellent showing, Beardstown is really just entering upon its career as a city. It is fortunately situated on the largest river of the state, about equi-distant between St. Louis and Peoria, far enough removed from any other large city to prevent serious competition, and having first class railroad facilities that give direct communication with the outside world and the vast coal fields in the southern part of the state, and connected with its neighboring county across the river with a splendid steel wagon and foot bridge, under the control of the city; having permanent highways leading into the city from every point of the compass, there appears to be nothing to check the laudable ambitions and hopes of the enterprising people of Cass County's metropolis to increase in importance and domain.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

BLUFF SPRINGS PRECINCT.

OLD BLUFF HOUSE INN—BEARDSTOWN AN EARLY MARKET—FARMERS AND DROVERS TRAVELED LONG DISTANCES—VOTING DISTRICT FORMED IN 1882—BLUFF SPRINGS NAMED—NOTED GRAIN SHIPPING POINT—EARLY SETTLERS—FIRST POSTMASTER AND STATION AGENT — MANY GERMAN SETTLERS — CHURCHES — METHODIST EPISCOPAL — GERMAN LUTHERAN—WELL WATERED—LOST CREEK—CLEAR CREEK—PICTURESQUE SCENERY—BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF THE ILLINOIS VALLEY FROM THE HIGH BLUFFS.

OLD BLUFF HOUSE INN.

The precinct of Bluff Springs is one of the newer voting districts of the county as compared with the others, although, for a time an old house, now near the center of the district, was a voting place, it being designated for a short period as such for Monroe Precinct, which then extended from the south line of the county north beyond the State road from Springfield to Beardstown. At a very early day, even long before Cass County was created, a large house stood on the north side of the public highway, on the present site of the splendid farm residence of Charles Jones, about a quarter of a mile east of the collection of houses known as Bluff Springs. It was known as the Bluff House, and served as an inn or tavern. Travelers often stopped there for their meals although they were only six miles from Beardstown, and there also stopped the drovers and farmers who were driving their hogs to the market at Beardstown. In that day, hogs were driven along the highways, from away beyond the central part of the state, as Beardstown was the nearest and best market for them, where

large packing houses had been erected and thousands of hogs were annually slaughtered and the products packed and shipped by boat on the Illinois River to St. Louis, and even as far south as New Orelans, there being no railroads at that time, and for many years after the formation of Cass County. One of the first schoolhouses in the county was erected near this inn, and school was kept up from that day on through the evolutions of the school system until the present method was adopted, and the school edifice now in the district was erected.

VOTING DISTRICT FORMED IN 1882.

The precinct was formed as a voting district September 9, 1882, and Louis Carls, Oliver Decker and C. T. Jockisch were appointed the first election judges. Parts of Monroe, Beardstown, Virginia, Arenzville and Hickory precincts were taken to form the new district. The first voting place was at the grain office of Oliver Decker.

BLUFF SPRINGS NAMED.

A station for the railroad was established at Bluff Springs, and that name given to it when the Springfield and Illinois Southeastern Railroad was laid through there in 1871. It is now the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad. The railroad ran south of the old State road nearly a quarter of a mile, and changed somewhat the subsequent location of the residences and stores. One store yet remains beside the old highway. There was never any organization as a village or town, but some of the ground was platted into lots, along the highway running north and south, intersecting the main highway east and west. The railroad ran through a part of the county farm, and later the county commissioners platted a small tract of the county farm and sold the lots. The county almshouse stands a half mile north of the railroad station and is a very imposing looking building seen from the west as the hamlet is approached, either by the railroad or the public highway. The county farm and almshouse have been previously spoken of in the chapter on county buildings and property.

There are two general stores for the accommodation of the people of the surrounding country, and the residents of Bluff Springs. The Modern Woodmen of America a number of years ago built a substantial hall for the use of their society, and the order has here a large membership and is very prosperous.

NOTED GRAIN SHIPPING POINT.

Bluff Springs Precinct contains within its borders some of the most productive soil in the county. The acreage of corn and wheat is annually very large, and the station of Bluff Springs is a noted shipping point; more than 125,000 bushels of wheat are annually shipped from that point, and over 150,000 bushels of corn. There are two elevators located here, but they now both belong to the Bluff Springs Elevator Company, composed of a number of enterprising farmers of that place. At the present time the business of the company is in charge of Charles W. Parry, a native of Bluff Springs Precinct, and a young man of most exemplary habits and business ability. He has just closed a four-year term as deputy county clerk of this county and was especially efficient in that position.

EARLY SETTLERS.

One of the earliest settlers of Bluff Springs was Thomas C. Clark, who was born in Pennsylvania, February 24, 1785. From there he moved to Barren County, Ky., where he married Miss Julia Ann King, of Greene County, Tenn., April 23, 1807. They moved to Tennessee and lived there for about seventeen years and then came to Illinois, and after trying several locations finally settled at Bluff Springs in 1846. John K. Clark, a son, is still living at Bluff Springs, and he was born in what was then Monroe, while the territory was yet a portion of Morgan County, May 14, 1828. Another son, an older brother of John K. Clark, Thomas Clark, was born in Tennessee, September 14, 1820, and came with his parents to Cass County while it was yet a part of Morgan County. He and his brother John obtained such learning as they could in the primitive schools of their neighborhood, and later went to Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where they took a four-year course in the schools of that place. They were above the average of intelligence, and each taught school in Cass County for several years very successfully. Thomas Clark died November 8, 1878, from an attack of lockjaw caused by his stepping upon a rusty nail which penetrated his

boot to his foot. He left several children, one of them being the wife of F. X. Pond, a prosperous farmer of Bluff Springs Precinct; and another daughter is the wife of a very well-to-do farmer, Cornelius Woodward, of Monroe Precinct.

Another early settler was James Buck, who came from Ohio in 1839, and entered the forty-acre tract of land on which the almshouse stands. The original patent of this land, signed by President James K. Polk, is in the county clerk's office at Virginia. Mr. Buck later moved to Beardstown.

Dr. Ephraim Rew, the first physician to locate in the west part of the county, moved out from Beardstown to a farm in section 29, township 18, range 11, in what is now Bluff Springs Precinct, in 1833, and remained there until his death, which occurred May 23, 1842.

John Decker, another early settler, was born in Germany and came to Cass County in 1835. His son, Oliver Decker, was born near Bluff Springs in 1839. For one term he was county commissioner of Cass County.

Others here at an early date were as follows: Charles G. Jockisch, born in Germany, and his two sons, Gothalf and Charles T., also born in Germany, and his grandson, William Jockisch, who came with him to America in 1833, and resided near Bluff Springs until his death.

Louis A. Jones was the first postmaster and station agent of Bluff Springs. His father, Luther A. Jones, operated the ferry across the Illinois River at Beardstown for thirteen years, but later moved to Marshall County, Ill., and there farmed until his death. Louis A. Jones was the father of Charles Jones, who now lives on the site of the old Bluff House.

Another pioneer was Lycurgus Lee, born in Maryland, September 14, 1827, who came with his father in 1832, to Cass County. Ernest Arnold came here from Germany in 1840. It will be seen by the list of names and their nationality that Germany contributed to this part of the country a large number of its early settlers.

CHURCHES.

There are two churches in the precinct, the first one built being the Methodist Episcopal, which stands a half mile south of the station. The present church edifice was built in 1888. The German Lutherans built a very neat and modern church on the south side of the public highway in the north part of the hamlet in 1910.

The eastern portion of the precinct is rough, broken land, but has many productive farms, the high bluffs terminating at the eastern part of the village, and they overlook a beautiful portion of the Illinois valley. The water courses of the precinct are Lost Creek and Clear Creek. They cross from east to west, Lost Creek running along the north side of the railroad, and cutting the village about the center. Clear Creek lies further south. Both finally empty their waters into the Illinois River.

CHAPTER XXIX.

CHANDLERVILLE PRECINCT.

BOUNDARIES—WELL WATERED—JOB'S CREEK—PANTHER CREEK—PANTHERS ONCE NUMEROUS AND DANGEROUS — PANTHER CREEK STATION FIRST POSTOFFICE — CHANGED TO CHANDLERVILLE IN 1851—FOUNDED BY AND NAMED FOR DR. CHARLES CHANDLER — A NOTABLE MAN — CAME ALMOST ALONE TO THE SANGAMON BOTTOM—BUILT LOG CABIN—SECURED ENTRY CERTIFICATE IN 1832—CIRCUMVENTED A LAND SHARK—HIS MANY ACTIVITIES—INTERESTED IN FIRST SCHOOLS—ENCOURAGED SETTLEMENTS—PROMOTED RAILROAD PLANS—FOUNDED MERCANTILE AND MEAT PACKING CONCERNS—POSTMASTER AT PANTHER CREEK—APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT POLK—LIST OF SETTLERS IN VILLAGE IN 1848—SUBSEQUENT RAPID INCREASE—CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ORGANIZED—NAME OF CHANDLERVILLE ADOPTED — FURTHER DEVELOPMENT—ILLINOIS RIVER RAILROAD—BUSINESS LIST OF 1860—IN 1861 CHARTERED AS A TOWN—LIST OF FIRST TOWN OFFICERS—MILLS BUILT—INCORPORATED AS A VILLAGE IN 1874—ALL TRADES AND PROFESSIONS REPRESENTED—AN ADMIRABLE PLACE FOR RESIDENCE AND EQUALLY FOR BUSINESS.

BOUNDARIES.

Chandlerville Precinct lies in the northern part of the county, and is bounded on the north by Mason County, separated by the Sangamon

River; on the east by Richmond Precinct; on the south by Oregon and Virginia precincts, and on the west by Hickory Precinct. It contains about twenty-six square miles, a third of which lies in the Sangamon Valley, and the remainder is the bluffs and some uplands that were formerly covered with a sparse growth of timber, but are now largely barren and used for pasturage. There are, however, some fairly good productive farms in what are known as the "barrens." The precinct occupies a portion of four congressional townships, 18-9 and 18-10, and 19-9 and 19-10. It has two principal water courses, Job's Creek and Panther Creek. Panther Creek crosses from the southeast, after having been joined by Cox's Creek from the south.

PANTHER CREEK STATION.

From the very earliest recollection of the white settlers the large creek running northwest, south of the village of Chandlerville, has been known as Panther Creek, but who bestowed the name cannot be ascertained. In earlier days it was by the natives called "Painter Crick," but it was named after the most ferocious of the wild animals that infested the timber and bottom lands along the streams until a very late day after the whites began to form settlements. Farmers suffered the loss of many a pig and lamb, and not infrequently a calf from the depredations of these animals, and it is probable that on account of so many panthers making their homes along the big creek where it had washed deep gullies through the hills, the name Painter or Panther was given to that classic stream. For years the site of Chandlerville was known as Panther Creek Station; even the post office later located there, bore that name until 1851, when the government at Washington was called upon to exchange it for that of Chandlerville. The new name was given in honor of Dr. Charles Chandler, who had made the first settlement near the creek on the Sangamon bottom.

A NOTABLE MAN.

Dr. Charles Chandler was born July 2, 1806, at Woodstock, in Windham County, Conn. After a common school education in his native town, he attended Dudley Academy in Massachusetts, and then taught school for a year or two, the proceeds from which enabled him to take a medical course at a college in Pittsfield, Mass. He was graduated from that institution, and received his diploma in June, 1827. Returning to his native town of Woodstock, he began the practice of his profession there, and succeeded fairly well. He was married, May 18, 1829, to Mary Carrol Rickard, also a native of Woodstock. In a short time he moved to Scituate, R. I., where he was very successful in his practice, and by 1831 had built a fine two-story residence. The sequence will show why this incident in his life is mentioned.

About that time interesting stories of the great west, and particularly Illinois, were being circulated, and the young doctor with several of his neighbors concluded to come west and investigate for themselves. A colony was formed and the doctor sold his residence, much against the wishes of his wife, who did not relish the idea of leaving a nice, comfortable new home for an experimental life of hardship in the wilderness of the great west. The doctor promised that as soon as they were well settled in their new home, and he was financially able, he would build for her a house exactly like the one he wanted to leave. Yielding because of this promise, she consented to go, and the little colony packed their necessary belongings and started by stage and river for their destination, which was Fort Clark, now Peoria, on the Illinois River. A number of the original company, however, backed out, and would not even start, but several families did go as far as St. Louis, but there learning of the great excitement on account of the Black Hawk war, they too turned back and left the doctor with his wife and a small child, a daughter, to proceed on his way. The little party took an Illinois River steamboat for Fort Clark, but when they arrived at Beardstown, they found a great army there assembled, prepared to follow after the noted Black Hawk, Indian chief, and expel him and his band from the state. As the Indian uprising appeared to be fraught with more danger the nearer Dr. Chandler came to it, he prudently stopped at Beardstown. While waiting there, he learned of the country now comprising Cass County, and made investigations by riding over on horseback, and finally concluded to locate near the mouth of Panther Creek on Sangamon bottom, about eighteen miles from Beardstown. So he laid a "claim" to 160 acres of government land, being the east one-half of the southwest one-quarter, and the west one-half of the southeast



Sarah E. Kendall.

quarter of section 31, township 19, range 9, west. He built a log house near the center of the tract about the site of the present Congregational church of Chandlerville, and there established his family, but was himself called to attend the settlers professionally before he could get a stable built for his horses. The doctor, however, came near losing his claim, through the sneaking meanness of a "land shark" who had come into the neighborhood and had been kindly treated by Dr. Chandler, who was more than glad to welcome any new settler who would become a member of the colony on the creek. This fellow, learning that the doctor had not yet entered the land to which he had laid claim, thought he would cut in ahead and enter it himself, but being only cunning instead of intelligent, like many other mean people, he was not wise enough to keep his evil intentions to himself, but let it be known to one of the doctor's friends, who, as soon as he could, communicated the fact to Dr. Chandler. Ready cash, coin, was not very plentiful, but the doctor soon gathered up enough by borrowing, temporarily, from the other settlers, and mounting his horse set out for the Springfield land office, riding all night through the timber and underbrush until he reached the open prairie, within ten miles of Springfield, where he overtook two gentlemen also riding towards Springfield, who, observing the tired and jaded appearance of his horse, inquired of him as to his errand and destination. Dr. Chandler explained the situation, and thereupon one of the gentlemen offered the exchange of his fresh horse to the doctor, which was gladly accepted, and by this means he was enabled to reach the land office ahead of the contemptible "shark" and secured the entry certificate for his land. The records show that this was on June 2, 1832. Later he entered the forty acres adjoining his west eighty. Dr. Chandler was not the only person in those early days who was imposed upon by disreputable persons. Some were not as fortunate as he, but were beaten to the land office and lost all their labor and improvements because of being less active than the tricksters. Silas Freeman, who came here from Tennessee in 1833, and laid claim to a part of section 2, township 17, range 10, west, just east of the present site of Virginia, had a similar experience. He, too, beat the "shark" to the land office, and saved his entry.

There is a part of the interesting incident, however, in Dr. Chandler's case that will have to be eliminated to conform to the facts. It is told by all his other biographers, in relating this story, that being desirous of having his land surveyed he inquired about a surveyor and learned of one residing at Salem, and upon engaging him he was surprised to find it was the man who had exchanged horses with him to enable him to get to Springfield on time, and that the man was none other than Abraham Lincoln. The story is easily believed on account of the well known characteristics of Mr. Lincoln, but unfortunately for the story, Abraham Lincoln was at that very time with his company in the northern part of the state engaged in driving Black Hawk and his band of Sacs across the Mississippi River.

Dr. Chandler was very much in demand by the settlers in a professional way, his practice extending throughout a range of country for fifty miles or more each way. By 1836 he felt he was able to redeem his promise to his wife and did so, building a house exactly like the one they had left years before. This house is still standing and is in pretty fair condition. It was the first frame house with the exception of the one built by Dr. Hall the year previous, outside Beardstown, in the entire county.

In 1833, Dr. Chandler's brother, Marcus Chandler, with his wife and son, Knowlton A., came to the settlement on Panther Creek, and Henry L. Ingalls and wife also joined the settlement. In 1834, the settlement was increased by Squire Bonny and family, George Bonny, a nephew, and Dwight Marcy and family. By this time several families had settled within a mile or two of Dr. Chandler's place, most of them having a number of children of school age, and although there was no public school, it was thought imprudent to neglect the children, whereupon, after due conference and consideration of the matter, Mrs. Ingalls, who was a highly educated woman, opened a school in her own home in the spring of 1835. There were the Bonny children, the Marcy family of six children, Robert Leeper's children, besides the Chandlers, Wings and Plasters, and others whose names are not now known or remembered by anyone and have not been preserved in any of the records, but there were enough pupils to make quite a respectable school, although some of the children had quite a distance to walk to reach the school. Dr. Chandler opened his own house to the children of the

community, with his sister, Emily Chandler, as teacher, when, in the next year, Mrs. Ingalls closed her school. Dr. Chandler was a very liberal man, and encouraged the maintenance of schools and churches and everything that tended towards the betterment of the moral and intellectual condition of the people who were now gathering and settling on all sides of him. He built a house at his own expense for the express use of the pupils, and gave tracts of land and contributed liberally to the building of the various churches erected at Chandlerville. He also looked after the material advancement of the settlement by inducing mechanics, artisans and tradesmen to locate here. Among others, he succeeded in getting Levi McKee, a wagon maker, to come to the settlement by donating to him a lot on the principal street for his shop, and another lot for a residence.

Dr. Chandler was a man of sound judgment and not in the least visionary, yet he favored any and all projects which held out any promise of advancing the interests of the community. When it was proposed to build a railroad through the village, his name was among the first on the list of promoters or of those seeking incorporation of a company, and it was very largely due to his efforts some years later, that the Illinois River Railroad came through from Pekin to the county. He also desired very much to have railroad connection with the river traffic at Beardstown, and readily joined with others in three different attempts through incorporated companies to build a line of railroad from Beardstown along the Sangamon bottom to Chandlerville, and some point beyond, but it required large capital, and the farmers along the proposed route would not consent, without the payment of large damages, to have their land cut up by a railroad.

In order to accommodate the other settlers in the neighborhood, Doctor Chandler, in 1835, erected a small store building and filled it with a stock of goods and endeavored to personally conduct the business, but his time was so occupied with professional calls from all directions that he found he could not give sufficient personal attention to the store, and in 1837 sold to C. J. Newberry, who did not succeed very well in merchandising, and in a very short time he sold it to a Mr. Chase, who continued the business for several years, and then sold it back to Dr. Chandler and his brother, Marcus. The firm did a prosperous business not only in merchandising, but also engaged in the packing business and for a time annually slaughtered about 3,000 hogs. In 1849 they met with a loss by fire which burned their store buildings, but they soon rebuilt and were if possible more prosperous than before. It is said that at one time they shipped 400 bushels of pecans to St. Louis, receiving for them $3 per bushel, which was double the price they had paid for them.

In 1847 Dr. Chandler secured the establishment of a post office at Panther Creek, and was by President Polk appointed postmaster. Prior to that time the mail was brought from Beardstown by the doctor's sons, and from his house distributed to the neighbors.

In 1840 Mrs. Mary Chandler died, leaving a small son, less than a year old, whom the doctor had named Harrison Tyler, and four older children, namely: Mary, the little child who had made the long journey from Rhode Island, who married John Shaw; Emily Webster, who became the wife of Gen. Charles E. Lippincott; Maria Louise, who became the wife of David Frackleton; and Charles Emmett. Dr. Chandler married (second) Miss Clarissa Child, a sister of Mrs. Henry Ingalls. She, too, predeceased the doctor, but only a short time, and left two sons, John T. and Linus C. Chandler.

TRIBUTE AS MAN AND PHYSICIAN.

It would be interesting to follow and record in detail the incidents in the life of Dr. Charles Chandler, for they practically tell the early story of this section, but the limits of this work will not permit. Of the several excellent biographies extant, one of the best was written by his acquaintance and friend of many years standing, Dr. J. F. Snyder, of Virginia, from which the following is selected as a fitting conclusion of the above brief notice of one of Cass County's most worthy and exemplary citizens.

"Dr. Charles Chandler was a highly creditable representative of the sturdy stock from which he was descended. He was a strong man physically, intellectually and professionally. In stature he was six feet tall, a Daniel Webster in figure, robust and well proportioned, with dark auburn hair and hazel colored eyes, high, broad forehead, and features expressive of his benign, unselfish nature. Animated by an indomitable spirit of progress and enterprise, he was remarkably active, energetic and industrious. Devoting himself for many years with zeal and effi-

ciency to professional duty in his sphere, yet he found time to plan, promote and prosecute various industries. His energy and power of endurance were marvelous, his labors being limited only by the limits of his fortitude. No fanatic was ever more a slave to the service of his religion than was Dr. Chandler to the duties of his profession. He never halted to inquire about the ability or honesty of those in sickness and distress who required his assistance, but went to their aid at any and all hours of the night or day. Dr. Chandler was a very able, clearheaded physician who would have been accorded a position in the front ranks of the medical profession anywhere. Well grounded in book lore and theoretical knowledge, his quickness and clearness of perception and fine judgment in the analysis of symptoms rendered him almost infallible in diagnosis. He was deservedly a very popular physician, not only because of his superior ability, but also because of his kind, sympathetic nature, his exalted humanity and genuine Christian spirit."

LIST OF SETTLERS IN VILLAGE.

The growth of the settlement was not very rapid in the immediate village. In 1848 there were but the following families: Dr. Chandler, Rev. S. Smith, O. Hicks, J. B. Shaw, Elisha Olcutt, D. Marcy, Levi McKee, H. L. Ingalls, Mrs. Harbison, a widow, and Mr. Chase. In 1849 Dr. Charles E. Lippincott, afterwards General Lippincott, came to Chandlerville, and established himself in practice. From that time on from some unaccountable reason the population increased rapidly and by 1851, a village of about 200 people was gathered at Panther Creek. A Congregational church had been organized, and was now quite flourishing and influential. Private schools were regularly kept up with efficient teachers in charge, and in 1848 Dr. Chandler had secured the services of J. W. Sweeny, the county surveyor, to lay out and plat his village. He gave it the name of Chandlerville, and filed his plat April 29, 1848, in the recorder's office of the county. By 1851 Dr. Lippincott had centered his affections on Dr. Chandler's daughter, Emily, to whom he was married on Christmas eve of that year. In that same year Dr. Lippincott had interested himself in the matter to such an extent that he secured from congress a change in the post office from that of Panther Creek to that of Chandlerville.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.

The village of Chandlerville made rapid and permanent growth. In 1859 the Illinois River Railroad came through from Havana, and by 1860, the following business interests were there, as exhibited in a business directory published with a map of the county that year, it being the first authentic record to which reference may be had indicating the material progress and growth of the various settlements in the county: Sylvester Padock & Brother, merchants; W. L. Way, merchant; H. McKee & Co., merchants; L. P. Renshaw, dealer in grain; Levi McKee, postmaster and justice of the peace; K. H. Chandler, police magistrate; A. Englis & Co., plow makers; Englis & McKee, carriage and wagon makers; J. Robinson, miller; R. Ward & Company, saddle and harness makers; C. L. Robinson, builder of Gilmore's patent bee house; J. W. Gladden, carriage and wagon maker and sign painter; G. Mayries, boot and shoe maker; W. T. Sprouse, blacksmith; Charles During, bakery and saloon; J. Raworth and A. J. Bruner, attorneys-at-law; R. Boles, merchant tailor; Thomas J. Brook, carpenter and joiner; Charles E. Chandler, physician and druggist; N. S. Read, physician; and Charles E. Lippincott, physician. A wall map, upon which appears the above list of merchants and professional men, also contained a number of pictures of residences and business houses in the various parts of the county, among them being the handsome home of Dr. Chandler, built in 1836, and the three-story brick building of Sylvester Padock, which was burned in 1911.

CHANDLERVILLE CHARTERED AS A TOWN.

The above array of merchants convinced Dr. Chandler, who had spent twenty-eight years of the best period of his life in building up a town, that now was the time to safely apply for an act of incorporation. Therefore he secured from the state a charter of the town of Chandlerville, bearing the date of February 21, 1861, and including a mile square of territory within its corporate jurisdiction. The first officers of the town board were: Dr. Charles Chandler, J. W. Gladden, W. L. Way, Elisha Olcutt, Levi McKee, and Dr. C. E. Lippincott, clerk.

The town has grown steadily ever since. In 1872 the Sangamon Valley Mills were built by Padock & Slink. After two years' prosperous

business, they were sold to James Abbot and William Haworth. In 1874 the boiler of a mill exploded, doing great damage to the building and machinery, and killing the engineer, Joseph Davis, who was an experienced man, but the cause of the explosion was never ascertained. In 1875 another gristmill was built by Skagg Brothers, but they sold in about two years to James Tantum, and later the plant was purchased by Smith and Carr, and was known for years as the Smith & Carr Mill. These mills were within the limits of the town, but in earlier days there were two or three different water mills built up Panther Creek. That stream was unreliable, rising rapidly with apparently the least provocation, from rain falling into the small tributaries in the uplands, and rushing in great torrents down through the hills, carried the small mills away one after the other, until the idea of maintaining a mill on Panther Creek was finally abandoned.

CHANDLERVILLE INCORPORATED AS A VILLAGE.

Chandlerville outgrew its old town charter by 1874, and on July 21, that year, received its certificate of incorporation as a village under the new general state law. It now has a population nearly sufficient to entitle it to become a city under the same general law. A number of additions to the village have been made until it now has spread over a large tract of land. Its substantial growth is evidenced by the fact that it now has an excellent high school, with an equally fine graded school, employing seven teachers and a principal; six churches, the Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, Christian, Lutheran and Catholic; two banks, the Chandlerville State and the Peoples State; four physicians and surgeons, Drs. N. H. Boone, Howard B. Boone, John G. Franken and Dr. Eversole; one lawyer, A. T. Lucas, state's attorney of Cass County, who maintains his private office and residence at Chandlerville, although his public office is at Virginia; a flouring mill, several groceries, two boot and shoe stores, two hardware stores, three dry goods stores, a jewelry and repair shop, a harness store and shop, several meat markets and general stores, several elevators and grain dealers, a large lumber yard with all kinds of building materials, barber shops, clothing stores, millinery and furnishing stores, furniture store and undertaker, livery, feed and sales stable, an electric light system, telephone exchange, and a flourishing weekly newspaper.

A large plat of ground was left vacant in the business center, which is now a beautifully shaded park, which, together with the many handsome residences, makes Chandlerville one of the most attractive villages in central Illinois.

CHAPTER XXX.

HICKORY PRECINCT.

SITUATION AND BOUNDARIES — FERTILE SOIL OF GREAT DEPTH—GRAIN, CLOVER AND TIMOTHY DO WELL—DRAINAGE HAS RECLAIMED LARGE TRACTS OF LAND—MAIN HIGHWAY THE OLD BEARDSTOWN AND PETERSBURG ROAD—LAID OUT IN 1837—THE "BARRENS" USED PRINCIPALLY FOR PASTURAGE—NAME OF HICKORY GIVEN BY COUNTY BOARD—HICKORY CHURCH—FINE BRICK SCHOOLHOUSE—VOTING PLACE—PROSPERITY EVIDENT.

SITUATION AND BOUNDARIES.

Hickory Precinct lies directly west of Chandlerville Precinct, and has Mason County bounding it on the north with the Sangamon River between. Virginia and Bluff Springs precincts are on the south, while the western boundary is East Beardstown Precinct. A large portion of the precinct lies within the Sangamon bottom, and since the small lakes and ponds have been drained by the Drainage District organization, has as large a portion of valuable farming land as any to be found in the county.

FERTILE SOIL.

The fertile soil is of great depth, and it appears to be almost inexhaustible. Cereals of all kinds are grown in great abundance, while the land produces excellent clover and timothy. In earlier days the bottom lands were thought to be of less value even than the upland prairies. The whole bottom from bluffs to the river was covered with a dense growth of native grass that grew from 6 to 8 feet high, and scattered throughout the length and breadth of the bottom were numerous clumps of blackberry,



Chas Leonhard



Lillie Leonhard

crabapple, wild roses and thickets of persimmon, while many sloughs, small lakes and depressions filled with stagnant water except in the very driest time of the year, during the summer months were infested with such numerous swarms of mosquitoes and great green-head flies as to make it utterly impossible for either man or beast to inhabit it. By the cutting out of the thickets and briars, and burning off the grass and draining and cultivating the lands, the sloughs and ponds were dried up, the miasma and green-head flies disappeared, and even the mosquitoes sought more desirable quarters. Now, as has been said, these lands are very valuable, and have for years been very productive, enabling the owners to become extremely wealthy. A ride along the principal highway of this precinct, which is the old Beardstown and Petersburg road laid out in 1837, running along the foot of the bluffs, will convince anyone that the soil of the Sangamon bottom lands had yielded bountifully to the farmer, and handsomely rewarded him for his efforts to reclaim it from its primitive condition. The southern part of the precinct is composed of what is known as the "barrens," and since the timber has been removed, these lands and the bottom lands are used almost exclusively for pasturage for horses, sheep and cattle.

NAMED BY COUNTY BOARD.

The precinct was originally named Bowen, but was later changed to Husted, and remained known officially by that name until it was changed to Hickory by the county board. It has never had a town or village within its borders, but the central part had a group of churches, which have all disappeared except the Presbyterian, known as the "Hickory Church," which has now an excellent brick building of modern design, standing upon the same tract of land occupied by the original church there built in 1849.

A modern brick schoolhouse stands just east of the church, the church and school yard together being of sufficient size to form a splendid play ground for the children. The school at Hickory is one of the best and most progressive, as well as one of the most thoroughly and sensibly taught in the county. The district adopted the plan of employing a competent teacher and then keeping her from year to year. Thus Miss Emma Suffern has been the teacher at Hickory for sixteen years. The Hon. Logan U. Revis taught the Hickory school in the late fifties, for a period of five years.

The voting place for the precinct is at the Hickory schoolhouse, on the north one-half of section 17, township 18, about five and one-half miles northwest of Virginia, and although not a large vote is cast, yet Hickory Precinct can always be relied on to return a majority in favor of the moral side of every question.

PROSPERITY EVIDENT.

The early history of this community has been told in the general history of the county. Reference has been made to all the early settlers, the schools, churches, and noted citizens, and much in detail will be found in the biographies of the men of the present day, and the references therein to their ancestors. The farmers of this precinct, for it is exclusively an agricultural district, are nearly all well to do men, have excellent houses furnished with the most modern of conveniences, electric lights, steam or furnace heat, and water supply, and many owning automobiles, all of which, together with the telephones and free delivery of mail at their very doorstep, makes life in Hickory Precinct very desirable, and very different from what it was in rural districts not so very many years ago.

CHAPTER XXXI.

INDIAN CREEK PRECINCT.

SMALLEST IN POINT OF POPULATION—SITUATION AND BOUNDARIES — MUCH RECLAIMED BOTTOM LAND—NOW VERY PRODUCTIVE—A PART OF THE THREE MILE STRIP—NAMED FROM INDIAN CREEK—EARLY SETTLERS AND DESCENDANTS—CHURCHES AND SCHOOLHOUSES — EXCELLENT HIGHWAYS, TELEPHONE LINES, FREE MAIL DELIVERY—A PROSPEROUS, CONTENTED COMMUNITY.

SMALLEST IN POPULATION.

Indian Creek Precinct is the smallest in point of population of any in Cass County, and lies in the extreme southwest corner, in township 17,

ranges 12 and 13, and has its territory almost severed by the long arm of Meredosia Lake, an extension of the Illinois River, which forms the western boundary. At times of even ordinary high water, the southwest portion of the precinct becomes an island. The whole of the precinct lies in the Illinois River bottom, although a portion is regarded as in the Indian Creek bottom, but Indian Creek itself, after it enters the precinct, is really within the Illinois River bottom lands. A great deal of the territory is reclaimed bottom land, but is exceedingly productive; many excellent and well improved farms are to be found within the precinct. Nearly all the land is now within one or the other of the several drainage districts which have been formed by the enterprising and progressive land owners.

NAMED FROM INDIAN CREEK.

Indian Creek Precinct contains about twenty-eight square miles, two-thirds of which was in the Three Mile Strip which caused so much contention before it was finally attached to Cass County. It formed a part of Arenzville Precinct when it was set off to itself and given the name Indian Creek Precinct, from the name of the principal water course, traversing its entire length from east to west.

EARLY SETTLERS AND DESCENDANTS.

Among the early settlers of this part of the county were: John, William and Henry Korsmeyer, John Schweer, Smith Wagner, Philip Corcoran, Augnst Holtman, John Dahman, Thomas Beeley, Isaac Drinkwater, Henry Krems, S. D. Caywood, Henry Schnake, John Brannan, Henry Fricke, John and Henry Knippenbnrg, the Hoffstetters, Lovekamps and Pelkers. Many of the farms are yet occupied by the descendants of the early settlers. George Schweer occupies the old homestead of John Schweer, as does also George Corcoran the farm left by his father, Philip Corcoran. The Korsmeyers and the Pelkers are on the farms of their ancestors, as are the Schnakes, Drinkwaters and Brannans. The Hoffstetter farm has been owned and occupied for many years by Herman Stake, who has been an active citizen in the interest of highways and the drainage of lands, being a commissioner of two of the districts, and also highway commissioner.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLHOUSES.

The German Lutherans have a church and school in the west part of the precinct, and there are three public school districts within the district, one being on the Island, one known as the Korsmeyer school, and the other as the Wagner Bridge school, the last taking its name from the large bridge which spans Indian Creek, not far away. Beside this schoolhouse stood for many years a church building of the Christians or Disciples, but it was damaged by a storm in 1875, and in the next year was torn down. Elections for the precinct are held at this schoolhouse, although the vote at times is not large enough to much more than constitute an election. This voting place is about six miles west from Arenzville, and ten miles southwest from Beardstown, and is reached by several fairly good highways crossing the precinct. Telephone lines run through the precinct and it is within the free mail delivery zone. The farmers are prosperous and contented; the most of them own their own homes, are free of debt, and quite a number have automobiles, and are thus kept right in touch with these rapid, progressive times.

CHAPTER XXXII.

MONROE PRECINCT.

NAMED FOR PRESIDENT MONROE—TOWN LAID OFF BEFORE CASS COUNTY WAS CREATED—SITUATION—TOWN PLATTED—NEW COUNTY ESTABLISHED—EARLY MERCHANTS REMOVE TO VIRGINIA—A DESERTED VILLAGE—THE BOSTON BRICK HOUSE—THE BAPTISTS EARLY IN THE FIELD—CLEAR CREEK CHURCH—ACCEPT A DEED OF LAND—CONGREGATION NOW SCATTERED—METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—A TELEGRAPH LINE RECALLED—AN OLD STOPPING PLACE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN—ORIGINAL PRECINCT ESTABLISHED IN 1838—SOIL AND PRODUCTS—SOCIAL LIFE—PEOPLE HOSPITABLE—THE "BURGOO" A FAVORITE FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT.

Monroe Precinct was named in honor of the fifth president of the United States. On June 27, 1836, nearly one year before Cass County

was created from the north part of Morgan County, John Schaeffer secured the services of Johnston Shelton, the county surveyor of Morgan County, and had him lay off and plat a tract of ground into lots, to which he gave the name of Monroe. This plat of ground was in the northeast corner of the west half of the southwest quarter of section 11, township 17, range 11, west, then in Morgan County, but now in Cass County. Benjamin Beesley bought a lot in the new town, and in a month, having secured an interest in another tract of land, he and Mr. Schaeffer laid out an addition to the town of Monroe, although very few of the original lots had yet been sold. This new town was on the direct line of travel by stage between Jacksonville, the county seat of Morgan County, and Beardstown. The old State road ran then as it does now, past the town site, but there has been no town there for some time.

A DESERTED VILLAGE.

The year after its platting saw the new county established and Virginia taking on a boom. By 1841 even Mr. Beesley, who had been a merchant in the town of Monroe with Mr. Schaeffer as a partner, since September 16, 1837, when the firm was issued a license by the county commissioners to sell goods at Monroe, concluded that Virginia would be a better place for business, and went there, purchasing of Dr. Hall lot 87 of the public grounds addition, and built on it a large brick house. For over half a century this was known as the "Boston Brick House." It was leveled to the ground in 1914. Other business houses were transferred from Monroe elsewhere, and soon it was a "deserted village." By 1850 all the buildings were removed except one; that was the Beesley store building, and it remained as late as 1860, but its last occupant was a Mr. Collinbaugh, a tailor who there conducted a tailoring business as late as 1854.

CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH.

When the Baptists thought of building a church out of boards and other lumber to take the place of the old log church, they did not build in Monroe village, but went over east nearly half a mile to the grove of timber, and securing a tract of ground from Mr. Schaeffer, built it where it now stands. Many tracts of land were deeded to congregations or to the public in the early days, upon which to erect a church, with a provision that in case meetings or religious services ceased to be held for a certain length of time the ground should revert to its original owner or to his heirs, but few if any tracts were ever conveyed, as was the church ground for the Baptist church in the Monroe neighborhood. That deed provided that if religious services were held for a longer period than three days in succession, the land should be forfeited and revert to the grantor or his heirs. The Clear Creek Church, as it was called, was organized about 1832, and had been holding its meetings in the settlers' cabins for many years, and in the log church, but in 1852, built the frame church on the ground deeded by John Schaeffer, accepting the terms of the deed, believing, no doubt, that any person that could not be converted in three days' preaching in succession was a hopeless sinner anyway. Among the members of that congregation were: Joshua Crow and wife, James Davis and wife, William Shoopman and wife, John Mathews and wife, Benjamin Shoopman and wife, Mrs. Nancy Hill, David Hardy, Mrs. Hardy, Elijah Davis and wife, Betsy and Lucy Bridgewater, John Bridgewater, Julia Ann Davis, Millie Huffman, Peter Hudson and wife, Thomas Buck and wife, Miles White and wife, Ephraim White, Rachel Epler, Nancy Hill, and Alexander Huffman and wife. Rev. Cyrus Wright was the preacher for a long time. The old settlers claim that Mr. Wright could have taken up the entire three days with one continuous sermon if the congregation would have remained to listen. The building is standing on the same spot of ground, an ideal place for a church building, having been kept in repair, but the Baptist congregation is scattered, scarcely even a descendant of the early members of that body remains. The building has ceased to be used as a church these many years, and is now public property for the holding of business and other meetings not of a religious nature, and also is used as a voting place for the elections held in Monroe Precinct.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Methodists of the neighborhood organized afterward and sought a religious gathering place, and in 1905 erected a handsome frame building for the Methodist Episcopal congregation. It stands about 100 yards north and a little east of the old Baptist church, and faces

to the west. Regular services are held and an excellent Sunday school has been maintained for a number of years. Sessions were held in the old Baptist church for quite a while, and then in the schoolhouse, which stands to the north and west of the new Methodist church. John Paschal, who has lived nearly his entire life in this neighborhood, has been for more than a score of years the most active and faithful attendant and worker in the Sunday school, being both superintendent and teacher, and he is also a musician and an excellent singer, so has, in every way, been of great assistance in promoting the welfare of the church and the Sunday school, and in providing suitable music at the services. William Huffman and wife and Edward Peck and wife have also been of great aid to the community in the church and Sunday school work. The people of Monroe Precinct loyally support the church, and there is no community in the county of a higher moral tone and standard than this.

A TELEGRAPH LINE RECALLED.

About 1851, as near as the recollection of the oldest residents of that neighborhood can place it, there was a telegraph line built through Monroe Precinct from Jacksonville to Beardstown. It followed the old State road, and so did not come within a quarter of a mile of the Baptist church. Neither is it known just when it was abandoned and the poles removed. Henry Pratt, who now resides at Virginia, but owns the land on which the old town of Monroe stood, or rather was platted to stand, says that the poles and lines were up when he enlisted and went into the Civil war, but that when he returned they were down and gone, so they must have been taken away some time between 1862 and 1865.

AN OLD STOPPING PLACE OF LINCOLN.

An object of interest still standing in the precinct, about a quarter of a mile south of the plat of the old town, is the house built in 1838 by John Savage, the father of Judge John W. Savage, now deceased, and Charles R. Savage, who is living near Bluff Springs. The house is in excellent condition and is still used as a residence by the farmer tenant of Mr. Pratt. In the early days of its existence it was used as a tavern, being one of those old fashioned wayside inns where the tired traveler could stop and be refreshed by a dinner or a supper such as only the hospitable landlords and landladies of those far-off romantic days used to serve. It was the stopping place for the stage in its regular trips between Jacksonville and Beardstown, and has often given shelter and refreshment to Judges Thomas and Lockwood, to Lincoln and Douglas, and to many other distinguished lawyers of those early days who traveled from court to court in their extended practice.

ORIGINAL PRECINCT ESTABLISHED IN 1838.

The original precinct of Monroe was established by the board of county commissioners on March 8, 1838, and the voting place was fixed at the town of Monroe. There it remained until all hopes of it becoming a permanent place were abandoned, and when the Baptist church and district schoolhouse were built where they now stand, and the people persistently refused to settle and become citizens of the town on the corner where the highway turned towards Beardstown, then the voting place was removed and established at the Monroe schoolhouse and there it remained until the old church became public property of the precinct, since which time the voting has been done in that building.

SOIL AND PRODUCTS.

The soil of Monroe Precinct is practically all fertile and there are many excellent, well improved farms, mostly occupied by their owners. There are two water courses traversing the precinct, Prairie Creek and Clear Creek, running from east to west. The lands are sufficiently rolling so as not to need artificial drainage. Wheat, corn, oats and hay are grown as the general crops, and along the western parts of the precinct where the soil is of a sandy loam many acres are planted to watermelons and muskmelons and produce abundantly for the market.

SOCIAL LIFE.

The social life of Monroe Precinct is as that of every other part of the county. Picnics and other out of door gatherings in the summer, and indoor parties at the hospitable homes in the winter, furnish entertainments. In the early days there were the quiltings, the apple-cuttings,



Miss Robertine Lucas



A. F. Lucas



Josephine Sarff Lucas

the house-raisings with dancing and social games after the work was done. One of the outdoor gatherings of later days was known as the "burgoo," Monroe being the home of this entertainment, which took the form of the old time barbecue, and differed from it only in the matter of the feast prepared for the attendants. A large kettle of soup is prepared in which all kinds of meat are placed, principally wild game if it can be obtained. In the earlier days every kind of meat was used. When a "burgoo" was to be held, hunters were started out and any and all kinds of game that could be found were brought in and prepared for the kettle. Vegetables were added, and a skilled cook in that line could prepare a savory bowl for the hungry picnickers. These gatherings were very largely attended, as many as 2,000 people having been known to gather in Monroe Precinct to partake of the burgoo soup, and listen to addresses from some distinguished speakers. In 1896 and for a few years after, Monroe was the center of the Free Silver movement, and frequent gatherings were held and the precinct became famous throughout this entire congressional district for its "burgoos."

CHAPTER XXXIII.

OREGON PRECINCT.

AN EARLY SETTLED SECTION—LOCATION—BOUNDARIES — SURFACE — EXTENSIVE OPERATIONS IN STOCK — DRAINAGE — COX'S CREEK — MIDDLE CREEK—PANTHER CREEK—NEWMANVILLE—EARLY PHYSICIANS—CHURCHES—BAPTIST—DISCIPLES—GERMAN LUTHERAN — METHODIST EPISCOPAL — OREGON CHAPEL—GARNER CHAPEL—A PROSPEROUS PART OF CASS COUNTY.

AN EARLY SETTLED SECTION.

Oregon Precinct is one of the late voting precincts of Cass County. Its territory was a part of Lancaster, Richmond, Virginia and Chandlerville before the population became so numerous as to require a new voting district to be created for the convenience of the voters. Its history is, therefore, all a part of the history of the early settlements.

Oregon Precinct occupies a part of township 18-9, and a part of 18-8. It is bounded on the north by Richmond Precinct, on the east by Menard County, on the south by Ashland and Philadelphia precincts, while on the west are Virginia and Chandlerville precincts.

The surface of Oregon Precinct is very much broken and hilly, but the soil is very productive, and by persistent efforts the farmers have developed the land until they are deriving a profit from their labors, although to do so they have to raise and feed stock and operate on a more extensive scale than is the case in some other parts of the county.

The drainage of Oregon Precinct is from three water courses. Cox's Creek crossing its western part, empties into Panther Creek. Middle Creek running through the eastern part towards the north, is the second, while Panther Creek, which rises in the southern part, runs northerly through the center and out into Richmond Precinct. These creeks furnish but little water except in times of heavy and frequent rains. The people of Oregon Precinct are, with the exception of the few residing in the hamlet of Newmanville, engaged exclusively in farming and stock raising, and are as prosperous and progressive as are those in any other part of Cass County.

NEWMANVILLE.

The town, or rather a collection of houses near together, known as Newmanville, was laid out in 1858, by Rev. Wingate Newman. A few lots were sold and in the next year, 1859, the postoffice, which had been Hagley, was changed to Newmanville, but in recent years the rural free delivery has abolished the postoffice here. Mr. Newman built a blacksmith shop and rented it to Thomas Joyce, but later sold it to Alexander Robinson, who remained at Newmanville for a great many years, doing blacksmithing for the farmers within a radius of ten miles. He became a justice of the peace, which position he held for over twenty years at Newmanville, but finally sold and removed to Virginia, the county seat, and was shortly thereafter elected a justice of the peace for Virginia Precinct and is still in office. A store building was erected by Thomas P. Way about the time the blacksmith shop was built, and well stocked, and since then

another has been put up by James Struble. These stores do a fairly profitable bnsiness, as the place was from ten to twelve miles from any town or village, and enongh people have gathered in and around Newmanville to make it almost necessary that some provision be made whereby they can purchase the means of supplying their tables and households with the commodities they want.

EARLY PHYSICIANS.

Dr. Kilburn Hathwell and Dr. James Galloway were the early physicians. In 1859 Dr. David M. Logan came to Newmanville, purchased a lot and built himself a comfortable house. Dr. Logan was an excellent physician and continued in practice in and around Newmanville until 1869, when Dr. Charles Honghton arrived in the neighborhood and bought Dr. Logan's house and practice. Within a few years, however, Dr. Logan returned and re-purchased his home and practice. About 1878 Dr. Charles Mathews began to practice at Newmanville, and continued very successfully until his death in 1909.

CHURCHES.

A Baptist church was erected at a place northwest of Newmanville, called Big Puncheon Camp Grove, and a Disciples, a German Lutheran and a Methodist were built at Newmanville, or rather in that neighborhood, the Methodist Episcopal being organized in 1829. It was reorganized by Rev. Newman when he laid out the town that bore his name. In 1840 the people built a house which was used for both school and religious purposes. The old Methodist church was erected in 1855, and is now in disuse. The other settlement in Oregon Precinct, around which clustered a number of dwellings, was the Oregon Chapel and school. In this neighborhood were the Allisons, Garners, Wyatts, Monroes, William Watkins, Charles Deardoff, and Thomas, John and Jesse Crews. The old church reverted to the original owner because of nonuse under the terms of the conveyance, and was in 1914 sold to the county and is now used as a place for the business meetings of the precinct road district and for the holding of the elections. The church stood next to the schoolhouse. Another church in this precinct, also belonging to the Methodists, was built about 1860 and is known as Garner Chapel. A new building has long since taken the place of the first house of worship, and is of much more modern design. It stands nearly on the same ground as did the old building.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

PHILADELPHIA PRECINCT.

DATE OF ORGANIZATION—FIRST ELECTION JUDGES—SURFACE OPEN PRAIRIE—PHILADELPHIA VILLAGE PLATTED IN 1836—STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS BOUGHT LOTS — TOWN NEVER INCORPORATED — FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE BUILT IN 1901—AFTER PRECINCT DIVISION VILLAGE BECOMES A POSTOFFICE—EARLY BUSINESS MEN—FIRST MURDER IN COUNTY—LOCAL HISTORY GIVEN IN OTHER CHAPTERS—RAILROADS—CONSIDERABLE BUSINESS IN SHIPPING GRAIN AND STOCK — PEOPLE ATTEND CITY CHURCHES—NO SALOONS.

DATE OF ORGANIZATION.

Philadelphia Precinct was organized September 6, 1876, from the old precinct of Lancaster, which, up to that time, from a very early date, occupied the entire southeastern part of the county, but now was made into Ashland and Philadelphia precincts. The voting place of Lancaster had been for a number of years at the Panther Grove schoolhouse, but now that two new precincts were formed, the voting places were changed from there to the town of Philadelphia for the precinct of that name, and the voting place for Ashland was placed at the village of Ashland, although considerably away from the center of the territory. The first election judges for Philadelphia Precinct were Abraham Bailey, James Cunningham and John Mathis. These men were all highly respected citizens of their respective neighborhoods, and served as election judges for quite a number of years. They were all very early settlers.

With the exception of the northern part, the precinct is almost entirely prairie. In all probability that was the reason it was not settled sooner. That accounts also for the polling place being placed at Panther's Grove schoolhouse, and

that it remained there until so late a day, as the southern part had but a scanty population.

PHILADELPHIA PLATTED IN 1836.

While Cass County was yet a part of Morgan County, Archibald Job and Charles Brady were appointed by the commissioners of Morgan County, school trustees for township 17 north, range 9 west, for the purpose of disposing of the school land, which consisted of section 16 of that township, and after qualifying according to the law, they platted a tract of land in that section and called it the town of Philadelphia. Their certificate bears date of July 9, 1836. By that time they had sold half of the lots in the little prairie town, Hon. Stephen A. Douglas having purchased a few. They were later sold for taxes. The town was never incorporated, nor did it grow to any great extent. It had no schoolhouse until 1901, but in that year a very excellent building was erected on the plat of ground set apart sixty-five years before for a public park. When a postoffice was established in the precinct in which the town was located, it was not placed within the platted ground, but at the residence of Dr. Samuel Christy, about one-half a mile east of the plat, and was called Lancaster postoffice. When the precinct was divided and one part named Philadelphia, the postoffice went to the little cluster of houses upon the platted ground.

EARLY BUSINESS MEN.

Prior to the time the railroad came into and later passed on through Virginia, Philadelphia had a few stores and shops and did quite a lively business. In 1860 Joseph F. Black had a machine shop there, and Henry Bevis was a merchant, and from the very earliest time of the settlement of that neighborhood, there was always a local physician until very recent days, but it is said that the advent of the telephone, the introduction of the automobile, and, in accordance with modern ideas, characteristic of human nature to desire to have a city physician, irrespective of knowledge of the same, or of expense, have finally resulted in shutting out entirely the country physician in many neighborhoods. An early merchant of Philadelphia was Miller McClane, who kept a general store in a log cabin on the present site of the namesake city of Brotherly Love, as far back as 1837. In the spring of the next year, while a public sale was in progress near McClane's store, a murder was committed by Nathan Graves, who shot a Mr. Fowle by the side of the store door, and in view of a number of persons. It was the first murder committed in Cass County after its organization, and its story is told in an early chapter of this book, dealing with the courts, bench and bar. This story, like all the other historical facts concerning this part of the county, is so interwoven with the other precincts that they have already been related, leaving little to be told of Philadelphia Precinct as an independent municipality.

There has been a blacksmith and general repair shop at Philadelphia for the greater part of the time of its existence. After the Springfield and Illinois Southeastern Railroad came through and established a station there, it has maintained the semblance of a village. There are now two stores, and two grain elevators, and considerable business is done, a lot of grain and stock being shipped annually, these being the product of the surrounding farming country, which is equal to the best in the county. Philadelphia is now listed as a station on the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad, six miles from Virginia.

No church was built within the platted ground until 1869, when the Disciples church building was moved from Princeton to that place. Preaching services are occasionally held in the old church, but regular services have not been held for a number of years, even the Sunday school, formerly well attended and kept up in a flourishing condition, has now been practically discontinued. Yet Philadelphia Precinct contains a large number of intelligent, industrious and exemplary citizens. The day of the country church, except in the most remote districts, seems, like other things of the past, and the most of the people of Philadelphia are now associated with the city churches at Virginia or Ashland, which are easily accessible.

NO SALOONS.

Philadelphia, like all the country precincts in the county, is entirely without saloons, having voted itself free of them under the local option law immediately after its enactment.

CHAPTER XXXV.

PRINCETON PRECINCT.

LOCATION — BOUNDARIES — SOIL — LITTLE INDIAN CREEK—AN EARLY GRISTMILL—VERY EARLY SETTLERS—A PROMINENT FAMILY—TOWN OF PRINCETON PLATTED IN 1833—A POSTOFFICE, STORE AND BLACKSMITH SHOP IN 1826—OTHER ENTERPRISES—FIRST PHYSICIAN AND FIRST MARRIAGE—BUSINESS IN 1860—PRINCETON HOME OF NOTED MEN—CHARLES BEGGS—JUDGE CYRUS EPLER—REV. WILLIAM T. BEADLES—OWNS A MADSTONE—STORY OF THIS WONDERFUL STONE—PRINCETON VILLAGE NO MORE—VOTING PLACE AT LITTLE INDIAN—FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE DESTROYED BY A CYCLONE—CHURCHES—MISSIONARY BAPTIST—CHRISTIAN—PRESBYTERIAN — METHODIST — ZION CHURCH — ZION CEMETERY—TIME HAS WROUGHT CHANGES.

LOCATION.

Princeton Precinct lies on the south side of the county adjoining the Morgan County line, and occupies a part of the southeast quarter of township 17 north, range 10 west, and the southwest quarter of township 17 north, range 9 west. Virginia Precinct lies on the west and north, and Philadelphia lies on the east and a small portion on the north. The soil is of prairie and timber land, in about equal parts, the timber slightly predominating. It has but one water way, that is Little Indian Creek, a northern tributary of Indian Creek. It is a small stream rising in the prairie about two miles east of the village of Philadelphia, and flows southwesterly through Princeton Precinct and out into Morgan County from about the center of section 34, township 17, range 10. On this little stream was erected one of the first grist mills in Cass County, which has been mentioned among the early industries in a previous chapter.

VERY EARLY SETTLERS.

A number of settlers came into this part of Morgan County as early as 1826, and soon quite a settlement was formed along the creek, from which it became known as Indian Creek settlement. Among those settlers were: Jesse Allard, Alexander Beard, William Conover, Nathan Compton, Capt. Charles Beggs, Rev. John Biddlecome, George Bristow, Peter Conover, John Dorsey, John Epler, Thomas Gatton, Jacob Epler, John Hiler, Jacob Lorance, Isaac Mitchell, Samuel Montgomery, James Stevenson, who, in 1829, brought five grown sons with him, Wesley, William, James, Robert and Augustus; James Tilford, and a few others who came, remained a time and then sold and moved on, leaving none of their posterity, and so are forgotten. Most of these people were from Kentucky, although that was not the native state of all, for a few had gone there from Virginia, Maryland and other of the older states, and then a few had gone into Indiana and from there had come to Illinois.

A PROMINENT FAMILY.

James Stevenson, above mentioned, purchased a farm from Thomas Gatton, which he had entered in 1826, and which is one of the best farms in central Illinois, including both prairie and timber land. He remained on that farm until 1851, when he died at the advanced age of seventy-four years. His son, William Stevenson, retained the old homestead, and there reared a large family, engaging extensively in farming and stock raising, of which previous mention has been made in the chapter on agriculture. He was born in Scott County, Ky., December 25, 1813, and was sixteen years old when he came with his father to this county. This young man was one of the hardiest, most intelligent and energetic of the offsprings of the old pioneer stock. It is the fortune of but few men to live in one locality from the time of its creation as a state through its growth into that of third in population, and second to none in its progress and achievements in agriculture, stock raising, coal mining, manufactures and the building of railroads; the invention, use and great development of the telegraph and telephone systems, and all the stupendous expansion of great cities and vast commercial interests. He was not in any sense a politician, nor sought or held any political office, but as a voter he had actively participated in the varying political strife and upheavals in the nation for three-quarters of a century. He voted for Harrison for president in 1836, and voted at every election held in Cass County from the time of its organization in 1837 until the time of his death, which occurred March 18, 1909, when he was ninety-five years, three months and sixteen days old. He passed



Albert R. Lyles, M. D.

away at the old homestead where he had resided for four score years. His son, Charles Stevenson, who married a granddaughter of John Epler, one of the old pioneers previously mentioned, owns and lives on the old farm. This family represents the only descendant of the early settlers now remaining in Princeton Precinct.

TOWN OF PRINCETON PLATTED.

By 1833 the mania for laying out new towns all over the state had reached Indian Creek settlement, so a tract of land on the east side of the southeast quarter of section 36, township 17 north, range 10 west, was platted and called the town of Princeton. It was laid out on the west side of the highway that ran from St. Louis through Jacksonville northward to Fort Clark on Peoria Lake. There was already a small cluster of houses at that point. As early as 1826 there was a blacksmith shop and a general store kept by Mallory and Lewis. This was the first store in the part of Morgan County that later became Cass County. A postoffice had been established on July 26, 1826, and Eli Redding appointed postmaster. By 1835 the village began to assume somewhat the appearance of a town; there were two stores, a blacksmith and wagon shop, a school house, quite a number of residences, a shoemaker and a tailor. The Missionary Baptists had built a brick church. Two or three years later the Christian church built a new frame place of worship. Rev. John G. Bergen, who platted the town and filed his plat for record February 19, 1833, does not appear from any reliable data to have engaged in business at Princeton, but the Mallory store had changed hands several times, passing from Mallory and Lewis to Lewis, who, in 1834, sold to a man named Talmadge, who kept it but a short time and then sold to Parrot & Alcott. By 1840 Jacob Bergen, a cousin of the town proprietor, bought an interest in the store and continued it from the time that Mr. Alcott retired in 1840 until 1869. William Brown and William Kinner each had a store. Thomas Cowan had started a woolen mill or carding machine in 1834, and in 1836 John E. Haskell came from Maine and took charge of it. In 1840 Mr. Haskell moved the mill to Virginia. Clifford Wear was for a time a wagon-maker at Princeton, and in 1840 William Brown was justice of the peace. Zirkle Robinson carried on a tailoring business.

FIRST PHYSICIAN AND FIRST MARRIAGE.

Prior to 1830 Dr. A. W. Elder had been a practicing physician at Princeton, and married a daughter of Eli Redding, the postmaster. This is said to have been the first marriage of white persons in that part of Morgan, now Cass County. Dr. George W. Goodspeed came and located at Princeton before going to Virginia. In 1860 the town had not increased in population in any great extent. In fact it was not so populous as it was back in the forties, and had the following business representatives: general merchants, Jacob Bergen and O. H. Flickwer; merchant tailor, David Redpath; carriage and wagon maker, Hugh Elliott; physician, Dr. Robert Putman.

HOME OF NOTED MEN.

Old Princeton was the home and birthplace as well of some noted men in the history of Cass County. Among them, perhaps the most conspicuous, was Capt. Charles Beggs, who has been casually mentioned in previous pages of this history. Charles Beggs was born in the most momentous period of the nation, October 30, 1775, in Rockingham County, Va., just eight months before the colonies declared their independence of Great Britain. His father, Thomas Beggs, went into the war that followed and died of camp fever in 1778. Charles Beggs grew to manhood in his native state and on August 1, 1797, was married to Dorothy Trumbo, and he and his young bride immediately set out for the new state of Kentucky to establish a home. The journey was made on horseback, the usual mode of travel of that day. Their route lay up the valley of Virginia, then down through the valley of the Tennessee, on through the Cumberland Gap and from thence over the Boone trail to the county of Jefferson, where they settled and began the foundation of a permanent home. So thoroughly did he detest the evil of slavery, which he found on every side, that after a year in his new home, he resolved to cross the Ohio River into the Northwest Territory, which had been granted by his native state to the general government, and dedicated to freedom. He settled in Clark County, Ind., but was just barely located in his new home when he was sent as a delegate to the convention at Vincennes, called to form a constitution for the new territory of Indiana. There he met William Henry Harri-

son, who had been appointed governor of the new territory. They became close friends, and fought together in the famous battle of Tippecanoe. Charles Beggs commanded a company of cavalry. He continued to live in Indiana long enough to see it become a state, was a member of its legislature, and by act of that body was appointed a commissioner for locating the county seat of Clark County that was named Charleston in his honor. That was in 1806 and it has continued the county seat ever since. There he remained twenty-eight years, and when he was fifty-four years old concluded to move to Illinois. He came here in 1829 and located about one mile west of Princeton, where he lived for forty years, dying on October 21, 1869, and is buried in the little cemetery adjoining the Zion church in Princeton Precinct. He had reached the age of ninety-four years, eleven months and twenty-one days.

Among those born at Princeton who attained to honorable position and distinction in life, was Cyrus Epler, a son of John Epler, who became a circuit judge, which position he held for twenty-four years, a greater portion of that time presiding over the Circuit court of Cass County.

William Epler, a brother of Judge Epler, while living in Nevada, where he had been a United States land and mineral surveyor, was a member of the first constitutional convention of Nevada. James M. Epler, a cousin of these two, became an able lawyer and a member of the legislature from Cass County, and a state senator from Morgan County.

George Conover, president and for a number of years cashier of the Petefish, Skiles & Co.'s bank of Virginia, is another Princeton man. John J. Bergen, for twenty years a leading merchant of Virginia, and for eighteen years cashier of the Centennial National Bank of that city, was born at Princeton.

There was also another who, although not born at Princeton, was brought here in childhood, and here grew to manhood, Rev. William T. Beadles, who became a Methodist minister and was made the presiding elder of the Quincy District, and is now chaplain of the Soldiers and Sailors Home at Quincy. His father died when he was small and his mother, Mrs. Lurena Beadles, who was born in old Virginia, came with others in an early day to the famous Illinois country. She will be remembered by the older residents now living who are acquainted with the people of Princeton, as the possessor of a "mad stone," which was used for the treatment of wounds caused by bites of rabid animals or poisonous reptiles.

STORY OF THIS WONDERFUL STONE.

This stone has quite an interesting history, and particularly so as its record is not merely traditional, but is well authenticated by creditable witnesses. Mrs. Beadles' maiden name was Miller, and her family lived in Virginia prior to the Revolutionary war. An Englishman, who had been a great traveler, came out to the new world shortly prior to that war, and reached Virginia. He was stricken with a severe illness in the vicinity of Jamestown, and was cared for and nursed through his attack by Mrs. Beadle's grandmother's family. Among other things which he gave the family in token of his gratitude was a "mad stone," one of several he had obtained while traveling through India. He said the natives called them "serpent stones," and explained the efficacy and manner of using them in cases of the infliction of wounds by the bite of rabid animals or snakes. In 1838, when the family was separating, the stone was severed into four parts, and given thus to the children. One of these parts fell to the mother of Mrs. Beadles, and was by her given to another daughter. In 1858 that daughter gave it to her sister, Mrs. Beadles, who retained it until 1880, when, having grown quite old, and not being any longer able to make use of it, she gave it to her son, Rev. W. T. Beadles. He kept it until the spring of 1914, when he gave it to his son, Dr. R. O. Beadles, of Ashland, Ill. There may be a number of persons yet living who were treated by application of the stone, as it was not an infrequent thing to happen that persons were bitten by the prairie rattlesnakes, for they were very numerous in the early days of old Princeton. Rev. W. T. Beadles testifies of his own knowledge, that of the great number of cases of its application it never once failed to cure. One special case he recalls that while he was pastor of the Methodist church at Potomac, Ill., he applied it to a wound caused by the bite of a rattlesnake. Other usual remedies had failed, and though the patient seemed to be suffering greatly, it counteracted the poison and a complete cure was brought about. The constituent elements of the stone are unknown, but whatever they are they seem to have the power to withdraw from the flesh and absorb the poison.

There are too many well authenticated cases of cures to admit of any doubt of the power of this stone to perform its wonderful work.

PRINCETON VILLAGE NO MORE.

Old Princeton has disappeared from the map. The building of the railroad through from Virginia to Jacksonville, in 1869, and the running of a line two miles west of Princeton, settled forever the question of its future as a town. The plat was vacated April 31, 1875. No other town or village was ever platted in the precinct, though there is a station and postoffice known as Little Indian, on the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis Railroad, but this is only a way station, with a store, and at present an elevator. John Asplund has had a wagon, blacksmith and repair shop at Little Indian from the time the station was established. No town lots were ever platted, and it has been a struggle between the people of that neighborhood and the railroad company to keep this station maintained. The voting place for Princeton Precinct is at the Little Indian station, having been placed there by the county board after the abandonment of the town of Princeton. It is five miles south of Virginia, and within a half mile of the Morgan County line. Many car loads of cattle and hogs, and large quantities of grain are annually shipped from this station.

The first schoolhouse in the precinct was the Walnut Grove school on section 25, township 17, range 10, and was built in 1833. It was used for school purposes until destroyed by a cyclone in the summer of 1845.

CHURCHES.

The first church was that of the Missionary Baptists, erected at Princeton in 1835. Three years later a Christian church was built and remained until 1869, when it was taken to Philadelphia Precinct. The Presbyterian church was organized in 1830, but occupied a large barn on the Jacob Lorance farm until about 1835, when it used the brick schoolhouse which was erected near where the schoolhouse known as the Zion school stood until recently, that is just south of the present Zion Church building. Some years later a Methodist society was established and a union church was erected. It is the one now in use, on the northwest corner of section 36, township 17, range 10. There is a small cemetery adjoining the church lot on the south which is known as Zion Cemetery, and in it lie many of the first settlers of that historic community. About 1880 a Swedish church was built near Little Indian station in the northwest part of section 35, township 17, range 10, but no regular services have been held for a long time.

TIME HAS WROUGHT CHANGES.

When the Three Mile Strip of territory was added to Cass County from Morgan County, it was divided by a line north and south about the center east and west, and the west part called Arenzville Precinct, and the eastern half called Princeton, with the voting place at the town of Princeton. Many changes have taken place since then, and not one voter now remains who first cast his vote in Cass County at Old Princeton. Scarcely anything remains about the old site to indicate its early prospects of becoming an inland city. The schoolhouse and church are gone, the pioneer settlers have for years been mouldering in the little graveyards, the second generation sleep by their side, or are scattered to the four corners of the earth. The third generation moved away, leaving only strangers to read the meager history of the hardy race in the simple epitaphs upon their crumbling tombstones.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

RICHMOND PRECINCT.

SITUATION — BOUNDARIES — EARLY POLITICAL ACTIVITIES—LUCAS PRECINCT THE ORIGINAL NAME —CHANGED TO RICHMOND — THREE WATER COURSES — MIDDLE CREEK—CLEARY'S CREEK—PANTHER CREEK — VARIETIES OF SOIL — MUCH WEALTH AMONG THE FARMERS—EARLIEST SETTLERS—THEIR DESCENDANTS—BIG SNOW RECALLED—TOBACCO AND COTTON ONCE GROWN EXPERIMENTALLY—SCHOOL DISTRICTS—CHURCHES —BAPTIST—METHODIST EPISCOPAL—CEMETERIES — NO VILLAGES — PRECINCT POLLING PLACE — SHICKSHACK KNOB.

SITUATION.

Richmond Precinct was a voting precinct of Morgan County before any part of that county was cnt off to form Cass County. It occupies the extreme northeast corner of the county and is bonnded on the north by Mason Connty, separated by the Sangamon River; and on the east by Menard County, separated by the middle line dividing range 8, the western half of this range lying in Cass Connty. The precinct was called Lucas before it became a part of Cass County, and was treated to the disconrtesy of having its vote rejected on the question of forming the new county of Cass, at the vote taken in April, 1837. The precinct of Lucas had voted against the formation of the new county; not that the voters of that part of the county did not want a new county, or desired to remain a part of Morgan County, for they were in the farthest part of Morgan from the county seat, but because the act of the legislatnre had not included within the boundaries of the proposed county the south half of township 17, which they, with others, had petitioned for. The Jacksonville promoters of the proposition hoped that if the county conld be created with the boundaries offered in the bill presented for ratification, that then they would be forever secure as a connty, and also retain the Three Mile Strip, so would not permit the vote of Lucas to be counted. The rejection of that vote, together with the vote of Meredosia, another remote precinct, decided in favor of the creation of the county of Cass, and Lucas, with the rest of the north end of the county had to submit. When the new county officers were elected for Cass County, in August, 1837, and met soon after, one of the first things the connty commissioners did was to create new voting precincts, one of which was Richmond, made out of the old precinct of Lucas with some territory added, and to it they gave the name of an embryo town which had been platted and staked along the banks of the Sangamon River by a man named Thomas Wynn, who cherished the fond hope that in a short time the Sangamon River would be cleared of its brnsh and fallen timbers, and would be navigated by numerous steamboats from Beardstown to Springfield. With this optimistic view in mind, he had caused a board to be erected upon the bank of the river, on one of the river front lots of New Richmond, bearing the legend, "Landing for Boats," but a freshet came and washed away the sign and some of the lot, and submerged the ambitious dreams of Thomas Wynn. No house was built npon the platted ground, except a temporary cabin by James M. Robinson, in the fall of 1833.

Richmond Precinct has three water courses, the main one being Middle Creek, which flows through the central portion, rising up in the level extension of the bluff or timber land, and breaking out into the Sangamon Valley in section 30, township 19, range 8. From there it makes its course across the alluvial bottom farms to the Sangamon River. At times of heavy rains it becomes quite a stream, and rushes out of the hills with tremendous force. Cleary's Creek crosses the northeast corner of the precinct from south to north, emptying into the Sangamon. Panther Creek crosses the southwest corner of the precinct on its way towards Chandlerville, beyond which it also pours its waters into the Sangamon. A greater portion of the land of the precinct is rough and hilly, but the southern part has some level land of fairly good soil which the residents have cultivated and improved until there are many excellent and valnable farms. The portion lying in the Sangamon Valley is exceptionally rich soil, and since levees have been built to keep off the river and the overflow of the creeks in time of high water, abundant crops of all kinds of cereals have been grown and harvested, and farmers have become wealthy and the whole community has a progressive, prosperous appearance.

EARLIEST SETTLERS.

The earliest settlers of this part of the connty were: John Whitley, Peter Dick and his two sons, Levi and Henry, Eaton Nance, Robert Nance, John Lucas, Thomas Jones, James Fletcher, Joshua and Cary Nance, Philip Hash, James Hickey, Henry McHenry, William P. Morgan, C. J. Wilson, William Lynn, Jesse Armstrong and John Taylor. About 1830 George Thatcher, Bartlet Conyers, John Houghton, John Bingley and Elijah Watkins arrived.

There are a number of the descendants of the old settlers yet living in Richmond Precinct. William Lynn had come to Sangamon bottom in 1830 and entered a large tract of land. He was a miller by trade and had condncted a mill on Richland Creek in Sangamon for a number of years before coming to Cass. It is said that he



MILTON McCLURE

made the first barrel of superfine flour sold at Springfield. One son of William Lynn yet lives in Richmond Precinct, Timothy T. Lynn, who is eighty-five years old, but is in excellent health and resides on the farm where he has lived since his marriage in 1852. He has a very large farm, and has seen his children become settled and prosperous in life, living near him in Cass and Menard counties. Robert D. Morgan is another of the old settlers still living on the farm where he was born eighty years ago. Nathan Sutton, who came to Pecan bottom, which is in the northern part of Richmond, in 1833, has a number of descendants living on and about the old homestead. Still another old settler who has resided in Richmond Precinct all his life, is Francis Miller, who is now seventy-five years old, and was born near his present home. He has been a justice of the peace in Richmond for thirty years, and although unique in his dealings with questions of the law, generally reaches an equitable conclusion. However, a large number of the present residents of Richmond are new comers, although the old-time names of Watkins, Frankenfield, Gerdes, Milstead, Morgan, Lynn and Sutton, are seen in the lists of voters of that precinct.

TOBACCO AND COTTON GROWN.

Before the "big snow" of 1830, cotton and tobacco were grown along the bottom land next the bluffs. A man named Richard Chowning came from Kentucky in 1827, bringing with him his large family of boys. He did not enter any land but took possession of vacant land that his experience in his native state taught him would produce tobacco, and with the help of his family raised a very large crop, which, when matured, he sold in the village of Springfield for an excellent price. After a few crops of tobacco, with a little cotton, he folded his tent and silently slipped away for parts unknown. There was a gristmill over on Rock Creek in Menard County to which the settlers took their cotton, but after the winter of 1830, cotton was not grown to any great extent, nor was tobacco for the market, but each farmer had a small patch for his own use.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

There are four school districts in Richmond Precinct. The largest school is the Lynn school, which has a building with two rooms and employs two teachers. The first school was in the Dick district, where one is still maintained, the others being Green Ridge and Pontiac. All have excellent schools under the splendid country school system prevailing in Cass County.

CHURCH SOCIETIES.

In 1842 there was a Baptist church society at Puncheon Grove, with a comfortable frame building. Rev. Cyrus Wright was the preacher and after his death the congregation disbanded. A Baptist church is yet in existence at Mt. Olive, with services at irregular intervals. A neighborhood cemetery with many handsome monuments lies across the road east from the church. There is also a Baptist church standing near the Pontiac school in the south part of the precinct. The Methodists have a house of worship, known as Shankland Chapel, and a cemetery is lying to the east of it near Middle Creek.

PRECINCT POLLING PLACE.

The precinct never had a village or town within its borders, except the proposed town site from which it takes its name, but in 1835, Abner Foster and his brother, Henry T. Foster, opened a general store on the Sangamon bottom road, near the Dick school. After two years they sold, and the stock of goods was moved to Hagley, which is now known as Newmanville, just over the south line of the precinct into Oregon. The polling place for the precinct is at the Pontiac schoolhouse in the southwest quarter of section 6, township 18, range 8. It has been the custom for years to make some schoolhouse the polling place for the country precincts of the county, and the Pontiac is more nearly in the center of the precinct than any other. It is now accessible by excellent highways from all parts of the precinct, and is situated about eight miles southeasterly from the village of Chandlerville.

Shickshack Knob, which was the summer home of the Pottawatomie Indian chief of that name, is in the precinct on the east side of Middle Creek, being one of the highest peaks on the tall bluffs in that neighborhood. It is on the farm of J. W. Lynn, a grandson of the early settler, William Lynn.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

VIRGINIA PRECINCT.

VIRGINIA ONE OF THE ORIGINAL PRECINCTS—CITY OF VIRGINIA LAID OUT IN 1836—MADE COUNTY SEAT IN 1838—DR. HENRY H. HALL ENTERED LAND IN 1833—A MAN OF COURAGE AND ENTERPRISE—BORN IN IRELAND—EDUCATED AT BELFAST AND GLASGOW—VISITS AMERICA—MARRIES IN VIRGINIA—COMES TO ILLINOIS IN 1833—ENTERS LAND—DEVELOPING ENTERPRISES FOLLOW—SETTLEMENT FIRST CALLED HALLVILLE—VIRGINIA BECOMES ACCEPTED NAME—OTHER EARLY SETTLERS—FIRST TAVERNS—DR. HALL DONATES AN ADDITION TO TOWN—PUBLIC GROUNDS ADDITION—BUILDS A COURTHOUSE—RETIRES TO FARM IN 1841—DIES IN 1847—VIRGINIA INCORPORATED AS A TOWN—FIRST BOARD OF TRUSTEES—FIRST TOWN OFFICERS—EARLY DAY PROMINENT RESIDENTS—BUSINESS MEN—INCORPORATED AS A CITY IN 1872—AGAIN MADE COUNTY SEAT—RAILROADS BUILT—BANKS FOUNDED—SCHOOLS ORGANIZED—THE MURPHY TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT—TILE AND BRICK PLANTS—OTHER BUSINESS VENTURES—CONFLAGRATIONS—HEAVY LOSSES—PRESENT CITY NOT WELL PROTECTED—PAVED STREETS—RESULT OF VIRGINIA WOMEN'S FIRST VOTE—ADDITIONS TO VIRGINIA—GRAND VILLAS—LONGEVITY NOT UNUSUAL HERE—MANY NONAGENARIANS—WALNUT RIDGE CEMETERY—PUBLIC RECREATIONS—THE OLDTIME TRAVELING CIRCUS—ITS THRILLING INTEREST—ITS MAGICAL ATTRACTION—ITS MEMORY LINGERS.

VIRGINIA ONE OF THE ORIGINAL PRECINCTS.

Virginia Precinct was one of the original precincts of the county. The city of Virginia has grown from the little hamlet laid out by Dr. Henry H. Hall in 1836, when the territory forming Cass County was a part of Morgan County. Dr. Hall had entered the south half of section 3, and lot 1 of the northwest quarter of section 3, with other lands in township 17 north, range 10 west, from the government, at the land office at Springfield, Ill., April 19, 1833.

A MAN OF COURAGE AND ENTERPRISE.

Dr. Henry H. Hall was born in County Antrim, Ireland, not far from the famous Giant's Causeway, in July, 1795. His parents were Protestants, whose lineage was said to have had some admixture of Scottish blood. He received his education in the elementary branches in the common schools of his native county, and then, so his biographers say, attended Glasgow University, where he was graduated in a complete literary and classical course; that he afterward attended the medical college at Belfast, where he had conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and subsequently took a course in surgery at the Royal Hospital at Dublin. He was then given a surgeon's commission in the British navy, and on one of the war vessels made a trip to the United States. Having an opportunity to visit some of the parts of the country in the east, he seems to have taken a liking to America and resigned his commission in the British navy, and returned to Baltimore, Md., and from there went into Virginia and began practicing medicine. There he met Miss Anna Pitt Beard, the daughter of a wealthy planter, who had fought in the American army during the War of 1812. Their acquaintance resulted in a courtship, and marriage, the latter event taking place December 1, 1818. Dr. Hall was then but twenty-three years old, which proves that he was a man of extraordinary mental acumen, and of very studious habits, to have acquired the advanced degrees in college and university accredited to him.

After his marriage, Dr. Hall abandoned his profession for farming, and continued in that calling until 1832, operating in Accomac County, Va. In the spring of 1833, however, he came west and landed at Beardstown, Ill., after a long and tedious journey which led him to Baltimore, Md., over the Allegheny mountains by stage to the Ohio River down both rivers to St. Louis, and from there up the Mississippi River to the Illinois River, where he took passage on the first available steamboat, and thus reached Beardstown. From there he went to the home of Archibald Job at Sylvan Grove, he having had some correspondence with him before starting on his western trip. Dr. Hall had come to Illinois for the purpose of securing land if the country proved satisfactory. He rode on horseback over the country to Springfield and to Jacksonville, thoroughly examining the soil and watercourses. The contrast between the lands over which he rode and the barren, rocky hills of Virginia and Maryland, was so great and so favorable to Illinois, that Dr. Hall at once made arrangements

to enter a large tract. His wife had received from her father a large amount of land certificates of military bounty script which he had received as a soldier in the War of 1812, issued by the government, and these with others that Dr. Hall had purchased in the East, he used in payment for the land he entered. He remained in Illinois until he entered his lands, or at least a great portion of them. His affidavits bear the date of April 19, 1833, and were of course sworn to in person before the receiver or some other person authorized to administer oaths. After he had made his land entries, Dr. Hall returned home, but came back in 1834. By the time he reached his land, the state had authorized the laying out of a public highway across it, and that had been accomplished by the commissioners appointed for the purpose, apparently without compass, chart or any other proper instruments, one glance at the north star, consideration of whence the sun rose or whither it set, being deemed sufficient. Dr. Hall, accepting the situation, placed his houses, which he was having erected, one on each side of this road which cut his land on the bias, and when he platted the town two years later, he did not see fit to correct the lines, but permitted the surveyor to lay out a square 1,340 feet each way at an angle of north, 33 degrees east.

After his buildings were erected, Dr. Hall went to Philadelphia, Pa., where he had sent his family after selling his farm and stock and farming implements. There in the winter of 1834 he purchased a large stock of merchandise which he thought suitable for sale in the new country, and shipped it by sea to New Orleans, where it was transshipped up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Beardstown. He then employed a clerk, Charles Oliver, whom he induced to leave Philadelphia and try his fortunes in the west. In addition to his own family, Dr. Hall brought with him a young couple who had just been married, James Thompson and wife. They all made the trip by the usual route to Beardstown, and from thence went to Dr. Hall's land by wagon. A few other settlers had come into the neighborhood, but owing to the fact that Dr. Hall had built two houses and stocked one of them with a store of merchandise, the place began to be spoken of as "Hallville," and was known by that name for some time even after the doctor had made his plat and designated the town as Virginia, in honor of the native state of his wife. The houses Dr. Hall built for his residence and store were frame buildings, each a story and a half in height. The reason for making the storeroom a story and a half in height was that the upper room might be used as a sleeping apartment for the clerks and hands employed in the store and around the buildings. The house intended for a residence was built on the southerly side of the road, if indeed there was a road there at that time, some doubt being created with regard to this by statements of some early settlers. This house is still standing upon the spot where it was originally placed, and is yet used for residential purposes, being in fairly good condition. Robert Hall, the youngest child of Dr. Hall, was born in that house on June 19, 1835. He is living at Virginia, is hale and hearty, although he is eighty years old. Robert Hall is probably the wealthiest man in Cass County, and it is certain he is the largest landowner and the heaviest tax payer. He has been a very active man, living an outdoor life, riding horseback as his favorite mode of travel, and he is a very familiar figure about the central part of Cass County, usually riding a spirited horse. The biographical portion of this history gives much more of his life in detail.

When Dr. Hall located permanently on his new possessions, his family consisted of his wife and three children. Other children had been born to them, but had died in old Virginia where they had been born. A great many settlers were coming into that part of Morgan County, and the store business was very profitable, but Dr. Hall had been so long accustomed to an open, free, outdoor life in old Virginia, that he could not be content to remain indoors and so left the management of his store to his clerks, Mr. Bartlett and Charles Oliver, while he went about assisting his other employes in improving his farm lands. In the spring of 1836 he employed Johnston C. Shelton to survey and plat forty acres of his land, including the part where his houses stood, and joined the procession of new town builders that was marching with the new settlers from the southern to the northern part of the state. He recorded his plat on May 17, 1836, which shows the town laid out on the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 3, township 17 north, range 10 west. Dr. Hall held a public sale of lots on August 6, the day of the general state election, and a large number were sold.

EARLY TAVERNS.

In 1834 John Beadles came from the state of Virginia, with his two sons, James M. and Madison, and his son-in-law, Jack Powell. They entered land and settled near Dr. Hall. After the latter laid out Virginia, Dr. Hall concluded there should be a tavern building in his new town, and seeking carpenters, found that Madison Beadles and Jack Powell had followed that trade before coming to Illinois, so he immediately employed them to build a frame house on the southwest corner of the block on which his residence stood. This is the present site of the Mann Hotel, this corner having always held a hostelry from the initial one. This was not the first tavern, however, built in the new town. Rev. Reddick Horn had purchased in the summer of 1836, lot 102, on the south side of the public or Washington Fountain Square, and resold in 1837 to Dr. Pothicary who, as has been told elsewhere, immediately erected and conducted a tavern for a number of years.

Before the carpenters had completed the tavern building for Dr. Hall, he sold his residence to Rev. Reddick Horn, and moved his family into the incomplete hostelry. In 1838, becoming tired of the mercantile business, or being fearful of the approaching financial storm which broke with fury the following year, Dr. Hall sold his merchandise to Col. Amos West, who moved the goods and wares, together with the clerks, to the west side of the Washington Fountain Square and conducted the business until his bankruptcy about 1841. Dr. Hall, after the vacation of his store building, built an addition to it and used it as a dwelling, where he resided until his removal to the Linn Grove farm in 1841.

In the meanwhile other things pertaining to Virginia were rapidly happening. The lots of the original town had been about all sold and Dr. Hall had on July 1, 1837, laid out an addition by platting a tract of ground into three blocks on the easterly side and three blocks on the westerly side of the town. This was known as the "Addition" to the town of Virginia, and consisted of 118 lots. Dr. Hall had donated fifteen acres of ground to the county to comply with the provisions of the law concerning the location of the county seat in case it were located anywhere else than at Beardstown. The county commissioners accepted his offer, and the subsequent history relative to this matter has been related elsewhere. However, the part of the transaction pertaining to Virginia in particular is that the county commissioners accepted an offer of Dr. Hall to build the courthouse in exchange for the fifteen acres or the proceeds thereof except the public square on which the courthouse was to stand. The ground had been platted into lots, and the tract was known and designated as the Public Grounds Addition. The easterly side of the fifteen-acre tract was, however, some little distance from the addition to the original town made by Dr. Hall, and to close up the gap and make a solid, contiguous and compact town, on the plat at least, Dr. Hall who still owned the land between the two tracts, laid that out and platted it into lots and called it the Addition to the Public Grounds of Virginia. Dr. Hall had hoped, and not without excellent reason, from the very first, that the county seat would be located at Virginia, and before he moved out of town limits, he had the pleasure of seeing the court convene in the new courthouse he had built. In 1841 he made a public sale of a large amount of his personal property, and then moved to the new brick house he had built on the Linn Grove farm. There he remained the rest of his life. He was very active in assisting to have the Three Mile Strip added to Cass County, as is told elsewhere, but before having the pleasure of rejoicing in that good fortune to all of Cass County, he was chagrined at the loss of the county seat, which had by vote of the people been taken to Beardstown. Dr. Hall's health failed in 1846, and notwithstanding his previous rugged constitution, he rapidly passed into the state of confirmed invalidism which the skill of the best physicians of Jacksonville and those of his own county could not prevent. In the summer of 1847, on July 14, he passed away, and was buried on the Linn Grove farm, but in 1880 the remains were removed to the Walnut Ridge Cemetery of Virginia, where other members of his family, who had died previously or since, are interred.

VIRGINIA INCORPORATED.

Virginia progressed slowly, attempting on several occasions to recapture the county seat, but without success. It did not seek an incorporation until 1857, when by act of legislature, dated February 19, a charter was granted. There was no general law governing the incorporation of cities and villages at that time. Each com-



Lloyd M. McClure.

munity had its special charter, with such powers granted to its trustees or council as its advocates could induce the legislature to confer. Virginia's charter did not materially differ from many others in the state, a stereotyped form being largely followed. Its corporate limits were fixed at one mile square. When Dr. Hall made his first addition he created the new street along the west side of the original town and called it Morgan street. He also made a new street of the same width and length on the east side of the original town and called it Cass street. When the corporate limits were measured under the charter the center was fixed at a point equidistant from Springfield street and Beardstown street in the center of Morgan street. It thus included a great deal of ground that was not platted into blocks or lots, but the lines of the corporate limits ran parallel with the old city streets. The new charter provided for the annual election of five trustees and a president, and gave the board authority over and the management of the public schools in the town. The first board elected was as follows: Charles H. Oliver, president, he being the man who had come with Dr. Hall in 1835, to act as his clerk; and John E. Haskel, Stephen P. Guin, Alexander Samples, John Bluford Thompson and S. W. Neeley, trustees. The board held its first meeting August 19, 1857, and having power to elect certain officers for the town proceeded to do so by electing James H. Harris, town constable; L. S. Allard, assessor and treasurer; John A. Giles, street commissioner; and John W. Naylor, town clerk.

PROMINENT IN EARLY DAYS.

Among those who held positions of trust and honor in the town in those early days will be remembered the following named persons who were so long identified with the town and its growth and progress: Dr. G. W. Goodspeed, J. G. Campbell, J. N. Wilson, William Shirley, I. N. White, Dr. Harvey Tate, J. E. Roach, N. B. Thompson and Jerry Cox. Garland Pollard, Abraham Bergen and Henry Phillips were early practicing lawyers. In 1860 the business interests of Virginia were as follows:

Hezekiah Naylor, proprietor Cass County Independent; I. H. Miller, president Union College; Pierce & Co., merchants; G. W. Goodspeed, M. D., physician; E. Loomis, family grocery; W. E. Martin, grocer and corn merchant; William Kendall, grocer and produce dealer; P. Phillips, M. D., proprietor flouring mill; John E. Haskel, proprietor woolen factory; N. B. Beers, house builder; C. Brooks, carpenter and joiner; William Armstrong, proprietor Glen Cottage nursery; Jacob Dunaway, proprietor Virginia Hotel; H. E. Ward, proprietor livery stable; Robison Bros., carriage and wagon makers; J. B. Arthur, blacksmith; H. Hinchliff, blacksmith; C. E. Lawson, saddle and harness maker; J. G. Campbell, boot and shoe dealer; C. Magel & Co., boot and shoe dealer; E. B. Randall, lumber dealer; L. S. Allard, druggist; W. Shirley, justice of the peace; Jacob Wise, butcher; L. F. Briggs, proprietor Cass County Union; and Robert H. Chittick, carriage and plow maker.

A greater portion of the mercantile business and the various trade shops were in the west part of town, that is, they were grouped about the old public square until about the close of the Civil war. After that the business center gradually worked its way to the east side, which was really the oldest and the first to have business buildings facing it. At this time the town had four churches, the Christian, Methodist, Cumberland Presbyterian and the Old School Presbyterian.

VIRGINIA AGAIN COUNTY SEAT.

By 1870 the people of Virginia were again thinking of making another attempt to get the county seat. A constitutional convention was held that year which adopted a provision that assisted the Virginians somewhat, and after having the town council erect a new town hall on Washington Fountain Square, which they proposed to donate to the county for a courthouse in case the county seat was removed to Virginia, a vote was had on November 12, 1872, which resulted favorably for Virginia, and after carrying the matter through the courts, the county seat was at last in Virginia in 1875, after an absence of thirty years. From that time Virginia took on new life, and a number of merchants and tradesmen, as well as professional men, moved into the city.

INCORPORATED AS A CITY.

Virginia was now a city, having availed itself of the provision in the new constitution under acts of the legislature persuant thereto, and became incorporated as a city August 12, 1872.

It had also additional railroad facilities, owing to the building of the line from Beardstown through Virginia to Springfield, which was opened in 1871, and the completion of the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville road to Jacksonville in 1869. The Farmers National Bank had been organized, and was doing business successfully. The city school district had purchased the old Union College buildings and grounds for a public school and also had the old courthouse remodeled for a primary school, and the city was generally flourishing.

A number of saloons had also made their appearance and did a large business until the great Murphy movement swept over the country, and a branch of the work under the Timiney Brothers assaulted the evil at Virginia. Continuous meetings were held and a great revival of temperance ensued. Everybody took the pledge and kept it for thirty days, more or less, after the Timiney Brothers left. There was one of the signers, however, who ever after stuck to his blue ribbon and avoided the liquor. Many will remember Michael Fahey, with his little donkey and cart driving about the streets, with a cheery word for all he met, his only fault being intemperance, but his wife induced him to sign the pledge and he kept it until his death, which did not occur until many years later.

TILE AND BRICK PLANT.

In 1883 George Henderson started a tile factory for making farm drain tile and later attached machinery for making building brick. In 1893-4 he made as high as 30,000 brick per day. His tile and brick plant was the largest manufacturing establishment in the county with the exception of the Schmolt sawmill and cooperage works at Beardstown. For several years Mr. Henderson employed fifty-three men steadily. In 1897, after the big fire in Virginia, he made over 2,000,000 building brick, but the drain tile became less in demand and after the buildings were restored following the fire, there was not so great a local demand for brick, and it was not profitable for him to manufacture them for shipping, so the output gradually diminished, until about 1910 he abandoned his plant, the machinery was sold and removed.

In 1884 a mining company was incorporated and a coal shaft sunk, but after a few years it was abandoned and the shaft filled up. In 1889 a charter was granted to Charles Wilson, George Conover and L. A. Petefish, incorporators of the Virginia Canning Company. A plant was established and continued with an excellent output of canned goods, but in 1902 the stockholders and manager became discouraged with the future outlook and moved the factory to Petersburg.

CONFLAGRATIONS.

Virginia had been fortunate in escaping disastrous fires until 1889, but on October 6 of that year a fire occurred on the west side of the public square which destroyed several business buildings. On August 27, 1897, occurred the big fire, as it has ever since been called. It started about 1:30 A. M., in the rear of a drug store owned by William Barkley, and soon spread to other buildings on the south side of the courthouse square, which was occupied by the best store and business buildings of the city, including the two banks, and could not be checked until the entire block was consumed. There was no adequate fire protection and there was nothing to do but try and save the contents of the buildings. Jacksonville and Springfield sent their fire engines as soon as the word reached them, but arrival was too late to be of much assistance. The Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern Railroad Company furnished a special engine and car to bring the fire engine from Springfield and declined any remuneration from the city. Neither Springfield nor Jacksonville would accept pay for the services of their fire departments. The loss to Virginia was very heavy, amounting to over $150,000, but immediately the citizens set about to rebuild and now have in place of the old buildings splendid new modern business houses of handsome exterior design. Again, on the night of December 8, 1900, a fire started in a millinery store on the east side of the public square and could not be controlled until it had consumed greater portion of the buildings of that block. The burned district was soon rebuilt, and since then, except for the fires that burned the school buildings that have been mentioned in the article devoted to schools, Virginia has been free from fires of any great destructive character. The city is a little better protected now in its fire department equipment, but has no adequate water supply, and a fire engine without water cannot make much of a contest with a raging fire.

PAVED STREETS.

Virginia's greatest improvement is its paved streets. Before paving was laid, the black soil at certain times of the year made the streets absolutely impassable for vehicles. Many times the mail was carted in a wheelbarrow to the depots, and hauling any loads or even an empty wagon through the streets was impossible. In 1910 some enterprising young men, among them being John G. Pratt, Marcellus C. Petefish, David Salzenstein and L. A. Petefish, determined to amend conditions in that line at least, and so they started the project of paving the streets, and by their efforts, seconded by the city council, presided over by Mayor Charles W. Savage, the principal streets of the city are now splendidly paved. Furthermore, the road to the C., P. & St. L. Railroad depot, a distance of nearly a mile from the business center of the city, is also well paved. Virginia is now one of the most beautiful little cities of Illinois, situated upon undulating prairie land which in the past thirty years has become almost a forest of beautiful shade trees of maple and elm, in pleasing contrast to the barrenness of earlier days.

RESULT OF VIRGINIA WOMEN'S FIRST VOTE.

The business interests of the city, its churches, schools and industries, have all been mentioned in the history of particular subjects. It has entirely discarded one industry, in fact has been without it for a number of years, and that is the saloon business. For several years before the local option law was in force, the saloons had been banished by the vote of the people in electing anti-saloon councilmen. After the local option law came into force, every vote taken proved the anti-saloon forces to be in a decided majority, but it remained for the women voters of Virginia to make a most unique record. The first opportunity the women had to vote upon any question after their right of suffrage had been extended by the legislature was at the November election in 1913, upon the question, "Shall this Virginia Precinct continue to be anti-saloon territory?" The women cast 494 votes and each one of that entire number was against the saloon. Whatever anyone may think of the question voted upon, all will admit that it was a most remarkable record.

ADDITIONS TO VIRGINIA.

Virginia has had a number of additions laid out and platted and made a part of the city, some within the original corporate limits, and some adjoining. They are as follows, after the Public Grounds and the addition thereto in 1838: Hall & Thomas addition, October 15, 1856; Robert Hall's addition, July 17, 1857; Robert Hall's second addition, August 29, 1859; Barden & Wood's addition, June 4, 1868; Stowes' addition, June 4, 1868; Stowes' second addition, March 30, 1871; S. H. & J. A. Petefish's addition, March 29, 1872; Beers' Cheston Hill addition, March 1, 1876; Haskel's addition, May 19, 1877; Heirs of Elizabeth Thompson addition, June 3, 1896. Grand Villas, a platted territory adjoining the city on the south, was laid out in 1876, but was not within the corporate limits, and was not made a part of the city by dedication or by ordinance. The lots were soon all sold and nearly all of them have a house occupied as a residence, and a considerable population is thus added to Virginia. These citizens enjoy the advantages of close proximity to the city without the inconvenience of holding any of the city offices.

LONGEVITY NOT UNUSUAL HERE.

There are yet a number of persons living at Virginia who were born within its limits as early as 1845, or prior thereto. Robert Hall, already mentioned, was born here June 19, 1835. Mrs. Elizabeth (Murray) Jacobs, mother of County Clerk Henry Jacobs, was born April 17, 1839, and still lives in the house on E. Beardstown street where she was born. Mrs. Jane (Elliott) Crawford, born June 15, 1841; James Clifford, born November 18, 1841; Charles I. Haskell, born in September, 1845; and William Clifford, born in 1844, are others. That Virginia and the surrounding localities have been healthful is attested by the fact that a large number of people have attained to the advanced age of ninety years and over. The names and ages of those nonagenarians, so far as they can be ascertained, are as follows: Zachariah Hash lived to be ninety-five years one month and six days old, and died May 12, 1907. He was born in Green County, Ky., April 6, 1812, came to Illinois with his father, Philip Hash, in 1822, and lived in Cass County until his death. Dorcas Mathews was born February 18, 1818, in the state of Virginia, and came with her parents, who were named Hamilton, to

Cass County in 1838, and remained here nntil her death, which occurred Febrnary 2, 1911, when she was ninety-three years eleven months and twelve days old. Mark Buckley, born at Oldham, England, came to Cass County in 1837, and died at Virginia, this county, March 2, 1906, aged ninety years nine months and twenty days. William Stevenson, born in Kentncky, December 25, 1813, came to Cass County in 1829, and died here March 18, 1909, aged ninety-five years three months and sixteen days. William T. Treadway, born in 1818, died in Cass Connty, July 18, 1912, aged ninety-three years, ten months and twenty-six days. Elizabeth Davis, born in Tennessee in 1800, came to Illinois with her husband, James Davis, in 1821, died in March, 1897, at the age of ninety-eight years, being the oldest person in Cass County. She was the mother of Francis M. Davis of Virginia, a veteran of the Civil war. Mrs. Sarah C. Gatton was born May 18, 1822, in Madison, Ohio, and came to Illinois in 1841. She snrvives and lives at her home in Virginia, being ninety-three years old. William B. Payne, one of the oldest merchants of Virginia, was born at Nicholasville, Ky., Angnst 24, 1824, and is ninety-six years old. Thomas Williamson, born at Oldham, England, November 15, 1819, is ninety-six years old. Mrs. Sarah (Hopkins) Cunningham was born in Clark County, Ind., December 19, 1824, and came to Cass County, Ill., in 1825. She is ninety-one years old, and makes her home with her son, Henry Cnnningham, in the neighborhood where her father, Henry Hopkins, settled ninety years ago. Mrs. Bernice Hunt, widow of Joseph Hnnt, is ninety years old. She is the danghter of Littleberry Freeman, who came from Tennessee in 1829, and in 1830 entered a tract of land in section 2, township 17 north, range 10 west, about a half mile east of Virginia. Mrs. Hunt is still residing on a part of that land with her son, J. Henry Hunt. Mrs. Margarette Reid was born in Scotland, in 1818, and is still living on her farm on section 21, township 18, range 10, being ninety-seven years old.

WALNUT RIDGE CEMETERY.

In 1872, in the month of June, the trustees of Virginia bought at a master-in-chancery's sale fifteen acres off the west side of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 34, township 18, range 10, a half mile north of the town, and had it laid out as a cemetery. It was given the name of Walnut Ridge Cemetery, and is a most beautiful location for the city of the dead. After it was surveyed and platted, it was formally dedicated by the city council of Virginia as follows:

"Mayor's Office, City of Virginia.
"September 20, 1872.

"The land hereinbefore described as it is therein platted, is hereby dedicated and set apart as a public burying ground, to be snbject to all reasonable rules which may be adopted by the city council of said city.

"G. W. Goodspeed, Mayor.

"Attest

"R. W. Rathbun, City Clerk."

The town had been incorporated as a city between the time of the purchase of the land and the time of entering the order of dedication, which acconnts for the nse of the terms "city council" and "city" instead of those of trnstees and town.

PUBLIC RECREATIONS.

At Virginia, as elsewhere in the connty, the recreations of the people were varied and limited, in earlier days mainly furnished by qnilt-ings, apple cuttings, house raisings and their attendant amusements of dancing or the playing of games. Later came pnblic picnics, and after the close of the Civil war there were frequent soldiers' reunions with speaking, music and similar entertainments. As these grew fewer on account of the passing away of so many of the old soldiers, the fraternal societies in a manner took their place, the Odd Fellows and Masons having gatherings. The log rollings of the Woodmen, which formed an amusement once, has fallen into disuse almost altogether. Formerly teams were made up by the various camps and at some hour of the day a large log which had been especially brought to the grounds for the purpose, was rolled a certain distance by each team in turn, the contest being with regard to the rapidity with which a team conld roll the log a given distance. Prizes were given the successful teams. There were other sports, and drills by the Woodmen teams. These annual gatherings are not entirely abandoned, bnt are held less frequently. Basket-ball and football are the sports of the schools of late years in imitation of the athletics of colleges. Baseball is of course the game which attracts the majority.



W. E. McCollough.

Playing marbles is still the pastime of the boys in the spring, and pitching horseshoes is still a summer sport for the men who gather at the country stores, or blacksmith shops, and even at picnics. It is a very popular game, and as the implements with which it is played are so easily obtained, they consisting of two pair of horseshoes, with two stout pegs driven into the ground at a distance of from 25 to 30 feet apart, it is not difficult to start a game. The players stand at one peg and pitch the shoes at each other, the contest being to pitch or place the shoes nearest to the peg, or even over it, each shoe landing and remaining nearest the peg, or over it, counting so much for the game as may have been agreed upon beforehand. This description is not written especially for the present generation, or for the following one, but to make a record that will be interesting a century hence. It may be interesting for the people of 2015 to know how we innocently could amuse ourselves and how simple minded we were and how little it took to furnish us recreation from the everyday toils and burdens of life.

THE OLD TRAVELING CIRCUS.

One entertainment of the earlier days that afforded great amusement was the traveling circus, not the great three ring combination of the present day, traveling on a special train with its thousand actors and employes, but the old time one ring, one tented affair, with its single ring master, one clown and trick mule. It was heralded for weeks ahead by flaming posters upon every barn and vacant space where the persuasive advance agent could induce the proprietor of the aforesaid barns and vacant spaces to permit him to place them. When the circus did come it was not crowded out to the very edge of town, or even clear beyond the corporate limits, but was given the most central location where there was room enough to pitch the one big canvas.

On the public square of Virginia, then only a scattered village, where the courthouse now stands, the nomadic showmen were given a hearty welcome, and the occupancy of so public a place gave rise to nothing more serious than the strengthened odor of dog fennel, as its essential oil was pressed out by the many feet of the unsophisticated, who tramped around with gaping wonder to view the deep mysteries of tent raising, or to get a glimpse of the one (toothless) lion, which a daring showman was later to beard in his den. Nothing but dog fennel had the temerity to grow upon that plat of land for many years after it was surveyed and dedicated to the public, in 1836, as Washington Fountain Square. The old time circus proprietors had a full and perfect appreciation of the power of first impressions and availed themselves of it in the regal manner in which they caused the band wagon to make its appearance upon the village streets. Every boy for miles around was up long before daybreak, if indeed he spent the previous night in bed at all, and congregated with his fellow urchins at the point on the highway where his unerring instincts told him the show would approach the town. There was no great street parade of empty painted wagons with gaily caparisoned horses, riders and drivers. The band wagon was escorted by a motley troupe of some hundred barefooted boys, for the most part dressed only with a "hickory" shirt and jeans trousers, held up by one "gallus," made of that same hickory stuff, trudging joyously along. This kind of a parade once seen is not easily forgotten, at least by any of the participants. Such a parade in the older days was made up of the future merchants, mechanics, physicians, lawyers, judges, statesmen, and the soldier defenders of their country, and as they now look back through the mist of departed years and revive the scenes in memory's hall, what would they not exchange for one hour of the unsophisticated joy of their youthful day in following the band wagon? How many glittering illusory objects they have followed since then have ended less triumphantly and have given them less joy.

BIOGRAPHICAL

CHAPTER XXXVIII

THE PART OF BIOGRAPHY IN GENERAL HISTORY—CITIZENS OF CASS COUNTY AND OUTLINES OF PERSONAL HISTORY—PERSONAL SKETCHES ARRANGED IN ENCYCLOPEDIC ORDER.

The verdict of mankind has awarded to the Muse of History the highest place among the Classic Nine. The extent of her office, however, appears to be, by many minds, but imperfectly understood. The task of the historian is comprehensive and exacting. True history reaches beyond the doings of court or camp, beyond the issue of battles or the effects of treaties, and records the trials and the triumphs, the failures and the successes of the men who make history. It is but an imperfect conception of the philosophy of events that fails to accord to portraiture and biography its rightful position as a part—and no unimportant part—of historic narrative. Behind and beneath the activities of outward life the motive power lies out of sight, just as the furnace fires that work the piston and keep the ponderous screw revolving down in the darkness of the hold. So, the impulsive power which shapes the course of communities may be found in the moulding influences which form its citizens.

It is no mere idle curiosity that prompts men to wish to learn the private, as well as the public, lives of their fellows. Rather is it true that such desire tends to prove universal brotherhood; and the interest in personality and biography is not confined to men of any particular caste or vocation.

The list of those, to whose lot it falls to play a conspicuous part in the great drama of life, is comparatively short; yet communities are made up of individuals, and the aggregate of achievements—no less than the sum total of human happiness—is made up of the deeds of those men and women whose primary aim, through life, is faithfully to perform the duty that comes nearest to hand. Individual influences upon human affairs will be considered potent or insignificant, according to the standpoint from which it is viewed. To him who, standing upon the seashore, notes the ebb and flow of the tides and listens to the sullen roar of the waves, as they break upon the beach in seething foam, seemingly chafing at their limitations, the ocean appears so vast as to need no tributaries. Yet, without the smallest rill that helps to swell the "Father of Waters," the mighty torrent of the Mississippi would be lessened, and the beneficent influence of the Gulf Stream diminished. Countless streams, currents and counter currents—sometimes mingling, sometimes counteracting each other—collectively combine to give motion to the accumulated mass of waters. So is it—and so must it ever be—in the ocean of human action, which is formed by the blending and repulsion of currents of thought, of influence and of life, yet more numerous and more tortuous than those which form the "fountains of the deep." The acts and characters of men, like the several faces that compose a composite picture, are wrought together into a compact or heterogeneous whole. History is condensed biography; "Biography is History teaching by example."

It is both interesting and instructive to rise above the generalization of history and trace, in the personality and careers of the men from whom it sprang, the principles and influences, the impulses and ambitions, the labors, struggles and triumphs that engross their lives.

Here are recorded the careers and achievements of pioneers who, "when the fullness of time had come," came from widely separated sources, some from beyond the sea, impelled by divers motives, little conscious of the import of their acts, and but dimly anticipating the harvest which would spring from the sowing. They built their primitive homes, toiling for a present subsistence while laying the foundations of private fortunes and future advancement.

Most of these have passed away, but not before they beheld a development of business and population surpassing the wildest dreams of fancy or expectation. A few yet remain whose years have passed the allotted three-score and ten, and who love to recount, among the cherished memories of their lives, their reminiscences of early days.

[The following items of personal and family history, having been arranged in encyclopedic (or alphabetical) order as to names of the individual subjects, no special index to this part of the work will be found necessary.]

ABBOTT, James William.—Chandlerville is the center of a rich agricultural district that looks to it as a market so that the handling of grain for the farmers is an important industry. One of the men who has made a success along this line is James William Abbott. He was born in this city, September 21, 1877, a son of James and Margaret (Lidsay) Abbott, the former born in Lancashire, England, August 30, 1853, and the latter in Mason County, Ill. The father came to Mason County, Ill., from England with

his parents, and resided with them on their farm until he was of age, when he moved to Cass County and began the milling business. For ten years he continued in this business for himself, and then discontinued the milling business and went into the grain business. For a time he and his father were partners, but this association ceased with the death of the latter in 1905. Mr. Abbott enjoyed the advantages offered by the high school of his native place and is a well informed man.

Mr. Abbott was married to Martha E. Elliott at Chandlerville, Ill. She was born in Cass County, November 7, 1876, a daughter of Hugh P. and Sarah Elliott. Mr. and Mrs. Abbott have had the following children: William Edison, James Hugh, Orville E., Maxine E., Virginia May, and Norman Clare. Mr. Abbott is a Republican and was elected mayor of Chandlerville for a term of two years and a school trustee for three years. He belongs to Chandlerville Lodge No. 724, A. F. & A. M., and in religious faith is a Methodist. A man of progressive ideas, he is always anxious to work for the betterment of his community, and the advancement of moral standards.

ADKINS, John Richard (deceased).—The late John Richard Adkins of Ashland, Ill., was one of those men whose memory is held in kindly recollection long after they have passed away. His deeds of kindness were many, and his record of a life of honest industry and helpful, peaceful neighborliness is something to be cherished by family and community. Mr. Adkins was born on the southern line of Cass County, July 10, 1839, a son of Joshua and Elizabeth (Smith) (Flinn) Adkins, natives of Tennessee, the latter being the widow of Josiah Flinn, who had left four children, they being as follows: Nancy, who is now a widow (Mrs. Bertram), living in Iowa; Jane, who became Mrs. Jacob Schroeder, is deceased; and William and Mary, the latter Mrs. John Lang, both died in Kansas. Joshua Adkins was married in Morgan, now Cass County, Ill., to Mrs. Elizabeth (Smith) Flinn, and they had two children, namely: John Richard, and Elizabeth, who became Mrs. Morton Fortney, and both are deceased. Joshua Adkins and wife settled on a farm in Cass County, after their marriage, and they lived there until they died.

John Richard Adkins attended the schools of his district, and remained at home until his first marriage, when he moved to a farm of eighty acres in Cass County. Later he moved back to his father's farm, but after fourteen months returned to his own property, to which he added until he had 271 acres, and owned additionally, at the time of his death, 525 acres in Morgan County in one piece, and 205 in another piece. He also owned thirty-six acres of timberland. As he was the only surviving member of the family, he inherited his father's homestead of 244 acres in Cass and Morgan counties. All his life, he carried on general farming and stockraising. The death of this excellent man occurred October 7, 1910; buried in Flinn Cemetery. In politics he was a Republican, but not an office seeker.

Mr. Adkins was married (first) to Abigail Smith, born in Ohio, and they had two children, both of whom died in infancy. On September 25, 1867, Mr. Adkins was married (second), in Jacksonville, Ill., by a Methodist minister, to Ella M. Stockton, born in Morgan County, Ill., April 9, 1841, a daughter of David and Elizabeth (Burtram) Stockton, natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively, who were married in Kentucky, but soon thereafter moved to Morgan County, Ill., as they did not believe in slavery. From there the Stocktons went to Macoupin County, Ill., where both died about 1855. Mrs. Adkins resided with an elder sister thereafter, in Macoupin County, until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Adkins had the following family: Clara, who was born July 23, 1868, is at home; Walter, who was born February 17, 1870, conducts the home farm, married June 24, 1914, Bertha M. Allen of Pike County, Ill.; a son who died in infancy; John, who was born August 4, 1872, is operating one of the Morgan County farms, and married Maud P. Adkins, and they have Vera, Thomas, Armour and Oakleigh; and Mary A., who was born September 26, 1874, is Mrs. Elmer Johnson and lives on the homestead of her grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children: Marjorie, Weir and Kermet.

ALKIRE, Milem Josiah (deceased).—It is difficult to bow to the decree of death when the one taken away is still in the very prime of young manhood, and both the fellow citizens and the family of Milem Josiah Alkire of Virginia, felt especially bereft when he was taken away, for he not only was a lawyer of prominence, but also a man of sterling qualities and of lovable characteristics. He was born at Sweetwater, Ill., March 4, 1879, a son of Frank and Mary (Hurie) Alkire, both born in the vicinity of Sweetwater. Frank Alkire was engaged in farming until about 1899, when he went to Colorado and there worked as a civil engineer.

Growing up in his native place, Milem Josiah Alkire received a common school education, and in the Illinois College at Jacksonville, Ill., further pursued his studies. After leaving college he was principal for two years of the schools of Petersburg and Virginia, then went into the law office of R. W. Mills as a student of law, and after he was admitted to the bar, was in partnership with his former preceptor until his death, on March 2, 1907. Mr. Alkire is buried in Walnut Ridge Cemetery, Virginia. While a Republican in political faith, he never took an active part in public affairs. Fraternally, he was a Mason and a Knight of Pythias. Until his marriage Mr. Alkire resided with his mother, but after that event, which occurred January 1, 1906, to Stella Skiles, he maintained a home of his own. After her husband's death Mrs. Alkire resided with her mother until the latter's death on December 26, 1911, after



Albert H. Meyer & Family.

which she erected one of the most beautiful residences at Virginia, where she is now living with her little daughter, Jewel, who was born January 2, 1907. She is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Alkire was born at Virginia, Cass County, Ill., July 1, 1885, a daughter of Oswald and Eliza (Epler) Skiles, natives of Ohio and of Sangamon County, Ill. The paternal grandfather was Harman Skiles, while her maternal grandparents were George and Eliza (Huckleberry) Epler, natives of Pennsylvania and Indiana, respectively. Mrs. Alkire was educated at the Monticello Seminary, Godfrey, Ill. Her father was a prominent man of Virginia, Ill., being a banker and landowner; he died in that city February 18, 1908. Mrs. Alkire has one brother, Louis O., and a half-brother, Lee H. Skiles, who was born of her father's first marriage, with Ann Conover, the latter dying in 1874.

ANGIER, Lafayette A.—In every community the most substantial men lend their influence and devote their efforts towards the establishing of concerns which will give stability to the locality. Conservative policies dictate that in nothing is the public given better service than in the organization and faithful conduct of banking institutions, and Virginia owes much in this respect to Lafayette A. Angier, who, although now retired, has done much to promote the welfare of Cass County in general, and Virginia in particular. He was born just west of Virginia, in Cass County, October 1, 1852, a son of Addison G. and Anna Eliza (Wilson) Angier. The parents were born and married in Ohio, coming to Cass County soon after their marriage. Here they reared a family of eight children, as follows: Harriet, Mary Ellen, and Emma G., all of whom are deceased; Louisa, who is Mrs. E. Dygert, of Virginia; Rose and Grace, both of whom are deceased; and Lafayette and George, both of whom reside at Virginia. Both father and mother are deceased and are interred in the cemetery at Virginia. For many years Addison G. Angier was president of the Centennial Bank of Virginia, and was one of its heavy stockholders at his death, and was also one of the organizers of the Farmers Bank of Virginia, and was connected with it for a number of years.

Lafayette Angier was brought up on his father's farm, and educated in the schools of his district. For some years he farmed very successfully, and resided on his farm land, but moved to Virginia in 1892, although continuing his agricultural activities and still operates 380 acres near Virginia. There he bought a beautiful residence, which he has since remodeled, and has one of the most desirable homes at the county seat.

In 1876 Mr. Angier married Jennie B. Hill, a daughter of Charles and Martha J. (McConnell) Hill, and they became the parents of five children, namely: Grace, who is Mrs. J. L. Way, of Virginia; Harry, who died May 27, 1901, at the age of twenty-three years; Alice, who is Mrs. George Kikendall, of Springfield, Ill.; Fern, who is Mrs. William Finn, of Virginia; and Charles, who married Goldie Bingham, lives at Virginia and is associated with the firm of Finn Bros., dealers in gents' furnishings.

ARMSTRONG, Claude J., of Chandlerville, Ill., whose farm is situated in township 18, range 10, n., Cass County, Ill., is considered among the most intelligent, worthy and promising of the younger farmers of this portion of the county. Further details of his family connections are to be found in a sketch of his brother, Jeptha Armstrong, which appears in this volume. He was born in Cass County, Ill., July 26, 1889. His father was Robert H. Armstrong, a native of Cass County, who was engaged in agricultural pursuits, and his mother's maiden name was Jennie B. Schoonover, also of Cass County.

In early youth Claude J. Armstrong received a fair education in the public schools of his neighborhood and spent the time until his marriage in working on a farm by the month. He became possessed of a share of his father's estate, and after he was married, rented a house near the paternal property, and, in the fall of 1913, moved to the homestead, and here he and his family have since resided, and he has carried on farming successfully on the old place.

On February 10, 1909, Mr. Armstrong was united in marriage with Edith Schoonover, born in Cass County, October 14, 1888, a daughter of Jacob and Susan (Baker) Schoonover. Mr. Schoonover was born in the state of New York, and the birthplace of Mrs. Schoonover was in Cass County. They have the following children: Lloyd Bertrand, born April 7, 1909; Remus Robert, born June 6, 1911; and Roland Howard, born February 19, 1914. Mr. Armstrong has prospered in his undertakings and is considered a judicious and substantial farmer. He is affiliated with the M. W. A. of Chandlerville. Mr. Armstrong attends the Christian church.

ARMSTRONG, George W.—That part of Cass County which is included in the district of Chandlerville, finds a worthy and capable agricultural representative in the person of George W. Armstrong. His career has been similar to that of many others, who have followed varied pursuits for a number of years, but at length have returned to farming, finding in the tilling of the soil their comfort, their success and their proper field of endeavor. Mr. Armstrong is a native son of Cass County, born October 11, 1869, on his father's homestead in township 18, range 10, near Chandlerville, Cass County, Ill., a son of James and Anna B. (Chittick) Armstrong.

The Armstrong family has been located in Cass County since 1840, when John and Nancy (Cook) Armstrong, the grandparents of George W. Armstrong, came to this part of Illinois from County Tyrone, Ireland, the grandfather entering a large tract of land from the government, which he cleared from its native timber and developed into a productive farm. James Armstrong, the father of George W., was a child

when he accompanied his parents from Erin to this country, grew up amid pioneer surroundings, and, following in his father's footsteps, adopted the calling of a husbandman. He was married January 1, 1855, to Anna B. Chittick, who had come to Cass County with an elder brother, and they settled down to housekeeping on a farm adjoining the Armstrong homestead, to which the father continued to add until at one time he was the owner of 600 acres of valuable soil, the greater part of which he put under cultivation. He was known as one of the substantial citizens of his community, and an authority upon the subject of livestock. His death occurred April 10, 1907, when he had reached the age of more than seventy-five years, he having been born December 10, 1832. The mother, born March 11, 1834, passed away March 16, 1911. Their children were as follows: Elvina M., who married James E. Way, of Easton, Mason County, Ill.; John S., Robert H., Tillie V. and Gilbert, all of whom are deceased; James W., who is engaged in farming in this township; Anna E., deceased; Fannie F., who is now Mrs. Frank B. Todd, of Chicago; and George W.

George W. Armstrong attended first the district schools in the vicinity of his father's homestead, and following this was given further training in the Chandlerville High school and the Valparaiso (Indiana) Normal school. He entered upon his career as a teacher in the district schools, being thus engaged for three years, and then was made principal of the Walker Grove school, in Mason County. Two years in this capacity were followed by one year as principal of the Chandlerville school, but after his marriage, in 1898, Mr. Armstrong gave up the vocation of educator to become proprietor of the Commercial Hotel. When he sold out, three years later, he was made chief of police of Chandlerville, retaining that position for four years, and then returned to the old homestead where he had been born and purchased 165 acres of land, in which the place of his birth is included. Mr. Armstrong has since carried on general farming, and has also met with decided success in the raising of Red Polled cattle and Poland-China hogs. He is known as a business man of ability, and his private interests are large, yet he has found time and inclination to serve his community, and has been a school director since 1909 and deputy assessor since 1913. His public duties have been discharged in an able and conscientious manner, and his services have been such as to add to his general popularity in the community in which he has so long made his home. Politically a Democrat, Mr. Armstrong is one of the strong and influential men of his party in his section of Cass County. His fraternal connection is with the Modern Woodmen of America, at Chandlerville.

Mr. Armstrong was married December 21, 1898, to Miss Jennie B. Taylor, who was born in Cass County, March 1, 1873, daughter of Harry L. and Matilda (Lynn) Taylor, natives of Cass County, and granddaughter of Henry and Mary P. (Hawthorne) Taylor. The grandfather of Mrs. Armstrong founded the Taylor family in Cass County in 1830, in which year he came from Nashville, Tenn., where he had been born January 24, 1814. He died February 5, 1864. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, namely: Myron G., June 11, 1900; Mabel A., October 6, 1901; and Robert H., May 16, 1904.

ARMSTRONG, Gilbert Jeptha.—Among the most intelligent, enterprising, prosperous and successful of the younger farmers of Cass County, Ill., is Gilbert Jeptha Armstrong, of Chandlerville. He is, moreover, by reason of his amiable and neighborly qualities, one of the most popular and highly esteemed members of the community in which he lives.

Mr. Armstrong was born December 13, 1880, in Cass County, his parents being Robert H. and Jennie B. (Plaster) Armstrong, born also in this county. The children of Robert H. and Jennie B. Armstrong were: Cora Pearl, now Mrs. John E. Rethorn, of Chandlerville; Gilbert Jeptha; Nathaniel Howard, of Chandlerville; Judson Lee, of Fort Stielacoom, Wash.; Chalmers Nisbet, of Chandlerville, and Claude Johnson, who resides on the Armstrong homestead, just west of Chandlerville, in section 1, township 18, north, range 10, Cass County, Ill.

When Jeptha was three years of age his parents moved to the large Plasters farm west of Chandlerville, of which they afterwards became the owners, and which is still owned by the Armstrongs. In early youth Jeptha attended the Live Springs district school, afterward becoming a pupil of the Chandlerville High school, where he was graduated, in May, 1899, with highest honors of his class. In September of the same year he entered Eureka College, at Eureka, Ill., where his sterling qualities soon made him a leader among his fellow students and associates. He was in his senior year at Eureka College, when his father died, April 3, 1903. Being the oldest of the five sons, he was forced to give up his school work and return home and assist his mother in the settlement of his father's vast estate. His carefulness, painstaking and sensible economy, displayed in the settlement of this estate, were exceptionally business-like, and were characteristic of the eminent business qualities which have guided him in the attention given to his private affairs. After the settlement was concluded, Jeptha, personally, took up farming and stockraising, on the above named Armstrong homestead.

Gilbert Jeptha Armstrong was united in marriage, March 5, 1904, with Mary Sarah Kilham, of Virginia, Ill., who was born in Macon County, Ill., January 13, 1878, a daughter of Thomas and Judia Ann (Black) Kilham, the father of English nativity, and the mother born in Morgan County, Illinois. Mrs. Armstrong was educated in the district schools and in the Virginia High school, where she was graduated in May, 1898. She continued her studies, specializing in mathematics, and began teaching in the district schools of Cass County in 1899, which she con-

tinued until her marriage, teaching a special course of mathematics, during the summer season. After marriage the couple resided on the Armstrong homestead west of Chandlerville, where Mr. Armstrong carried on his farming and stockraising operations successfully for six years, when he purchased and moved to the farm where the family now reside, and where he still farms extensively. This farm is located in sections 26 and 27, township 19, north, range 9, Cass County, Ill., and contains 200 acres of the most fertile Sangamon River bottom land. The lives of Jeptha Armstrong and wife move along in perfect harmony, each being interested in the other's work, without a shadow or cloud to mar their happiness. Two children have been born to bless this union, namely: Jeptha Thomas, born January 10, 1908, and Winona Darlene, born December 14, 1911.

Mr. Armstrong is intelligently interested in intensive farming and in the development of modern agriculture. He believes in building up the soil to make it produce the maximum results and does not hesitate to put his ideas into practice, on his own farm, regardless of what his neighbors do. He was one of the active workers for and is, in a large measure, responsible for the University Agricultural and Domestic Science School that has been held, annually, at Chandlerville for several years. He is secretary of the Cass County Life Club, an organization the object of which is the advancement and promulgation of agricultural development. He is also treasurer of the Sangamon Bottom Anti-Horse Thief Association. Fraternally he is affiliated with the M. W. A. and Royal Neighbors, of Chandlerville, as is his wife. Politically Mr. Armstrong is one of those staunch, progressive Democrats who place principle above party. He is interested in his friends and, not seeking office for himself, has never hesitated to go into the field and work for others. He is at present the democratic committeeman from Chandlerville Precinct, and has won the approval and good will of the public for his careful, conservative and honest political dealings. Religiously, he is affiliated with the First Christian Church of Chandlerville, and serves as a member of the official church board. A man of upright life and high ideals, he enjoys the highest esteem of his fellow citizens, and never does he lose an opportunity to demonstrate his sincerest appreciation of their friendship. He is a man of large physique as well as of strong character, a careful and methodical business man; a warm hearted and generous companion, and those who have the pleasure of his acquaintance always know where to find him on all questions, for there is no uncertainty in his character. He is a kind, generous, thoughtful and affectionate husband and father: is devoted in his attachments and ever has the interest of his family at heart. His life has been eminently successful and he is an excellent representative of the superior class of young farmers in the community and county in which he lives.

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ATTERBERY, Emmet K.—For many years the Atterberys have been prominent among the agricultural families of western Illinois. Some of the most extensive and successful farming enterprises in Cass County have been carried on by its members, and one of the county's thriving towns is known as Atterberry. Emmet K. Atterbery, one of the best known farmers in this county, was born in Menard County, Ill., July 11, 1873. His father, also a farmer, was Ashford Atterbery, who was born in Menard County; and the birthplace of the mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Isabel McKee, was Ohio. At an early period, Ashford Atterbery acquired possession of an interest in 350 acres of land which, through years of unremitting effort, he developed into a highly productive farm. In early boyhood, Emmet K. Atterbery accompanied his father and mother to this place, and since that period has continued to live here. As he grew to suitable age he received a fair education in the district school of his neighborhood, and subsequently applied himself diligently to the work of the farm. In addition to general farming operations, he devotes considerable time to the raising of choice stock. The farm is composed of 350 acres of excellent land, and is situated in section 25, township 19, range 9, in Cass County, near the village of Chandlerville, which place is the postoffice address of Mr. Atterbery.

On February 12, 1896, in Cass County, Ill., Emmet K. Atterbery was joined in wedlock with Elizabeth Hickey, a native of Cass County, where her birth took place August 23, 1876. Mrs. Atterbery is a daughter of Seth and Kizie (Goodman) Hickey, the former of whom was born April 11, 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Atterbery have three children, namely: Ree Divern, born August 8, 1897; Alice Irene, born July 17, 1899, and Roy, born November 6, 1908.

Mr. Atterbery has never connected himself with any religious denomination, but fraternally is a Mason, being affiliated with Chandlerville Lodge, No. 724. Politically, he supports the principles of the Democratic party. Emmet K. Atterbery is known to almost every resident of his township. He is a man of much intelligence, with a large fund of practical information. He manifests an infinite amount of good nature in daily intercourse with neighbors, and his jovial disposition makes him quite popular among his acquaintances.

BAILEY, Fred R.—The furniture, undertaking and piano business conducted under the firm name of Bailey & Robertson, was started August 19, 1911, by Fred R. Bailey and Frank M. Robertson, two of the energetic young business men of Virginia. They handle a full line of furniture, the Fischer pianos, and do a general undertaking business as well. During the years they have been associated together, they have earned a well merited reputation for fair and honorable dealing, and are called upon to render services in every department of their concern.

Fred R. Bailey was born in Cass County, Ill., a son of Samuel W. and Fannie J. (Fisher)

Bailey. After passing through the common schools of Virginia, he entered the high school of the city, and was graduated therefrom in 1910. Following this he took a commercial course at a business college, and a course in the Cincinnati College of Embalming, from which latter he was graduated in 1911, almost immediately thereafter forming his present partnership, one that has been profitable and congenial. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masons and Odd Fellows. Unmarried, he resides with his parents. While not active in politics, Mr. Bailey has always given intelligent attention to public affairs, and can be counted upon to lend his aid to those measures which he believes will work out for the good of all concerned. As a business man, he has proven his worth to his community and both he and his partner stand very high in public esteem.

BAILEY, Samuel W.—One of the substantial retired business men of Virginia, is a native of the state of Virginia, and a son of George and Ann (Jasper) Bailey, the former born in that state, September 8, 1826, where he still resides; and the latter, a native also of Virginia, was born August 12, 1827, and died October 5, 1909. They had ten children, of whom Samuel W. Bailey was the fourth in order of birth.

On May 9, 1872, Samuel W. Bailey came from Marksville, Va., to the village of Virginia, Ill., but spent several years upon a farm in Cass County prior to locating in the village. Upon settling here permanently, he engaged with Vanvedentre & Bailey, lumber dealers, as bookkeeper and general manager, remaining in this connection for three years. At the expiration of that period, he embarked in a mercantile business on the east side of the public square, in partnership with Lawson D. Robertson, and they were thus associated for three years, when he sold his interest to Mr. Robertson, and clerked for J. F. Black, hardware dealer and architect until 1885. He then took a vacation until 1886, when he became a bookkeeper and salesman for George H. Henderson, manufacturer of tile and dealer in coal. In December, 1889, he bought a one-third interest in a coal shaft and gave this business his services until March 1, 1903. On this date he sold, and then embarked in a grocery business on the north side of the square, continuing to conduct it until May 2, 1903. Disposing of this business at a profit, he opened another store on the south side of the square, and continued it until January 1, 1911, when he permanently retired from business.

On February 7, 1878, Mr. Bailey was married in Cass County, to Fannie J. Fisher, a daughter of John and Adaline (Gist) Fisher. Six children have been born of this marriage, namely: George L., who resides at San Francisco, Cal.; John C., who resides at Virginia; Jess O., who resides at Hillsboro, Ill.; Fred R., who is in the undertaking and furniture business at Virginia; and Harold L., and Eugene D., who are yet students.

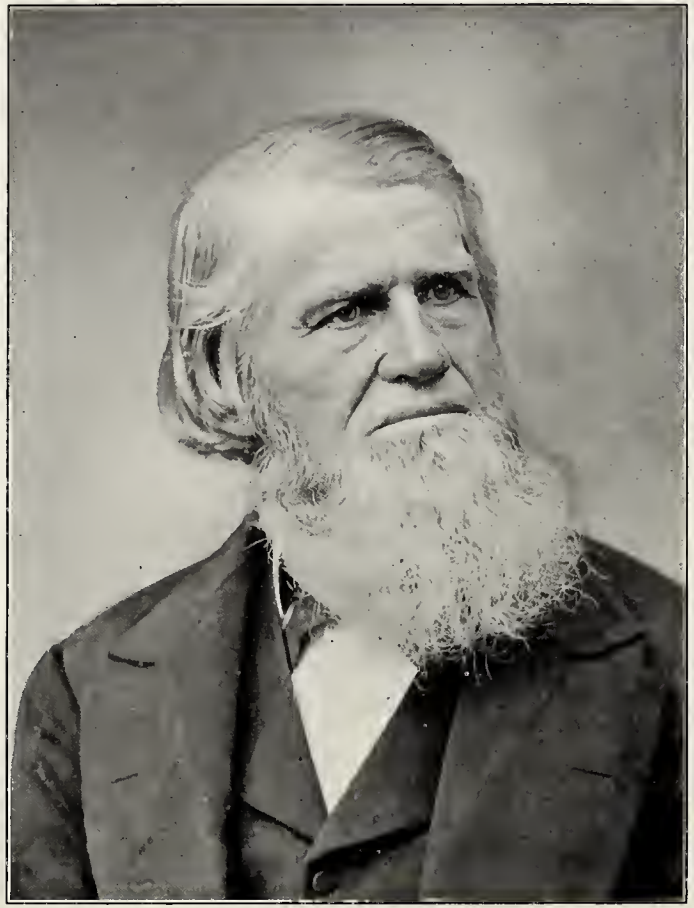
During the long period Mr. Bailey has resided at Virginia, he has served the city very faithfully in a public way, having been city clerk for three terms, mayor for one term, a school director for a number of years, and has held other offices. Joining the lodge of Odd Fellows at Virginia, he has been active in that and the auxiliary order of Rebekah ever since, and is now secretary and treasurer of the Central Illinois Odd Fellows Association. The Methodist church holds his membership, in which he is a steward and church secretary.

BARTLETT, Sylvester Joseph, now practically retired, was once usefully connected with some important construction and other railroad work for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and has always been a man of probity and high standing. He was born in Penobscot County, Maine, February 29, 1844, a son of Josiah and Nancy (Taintor) Bartlett, natives of Maine. The grandfather, Josiah Bartlett, also came from Maine. The father was a farmer by occupation, and in 1860 moved to western New York looking for better conditions for his work. There he died in 1868.

The interesting life history of Sylvester Joseph Bartlett practically began with his enlistment for service during the Civil war, November 10, 1863, in Company C, First Long Island Volunteer Infantry at Wellsville, N. Y., as prior to that he had been a farmer boy, alternating work on the homestead with attendance at the local schools. With his enlistment, however, he shouldered the responsibilities of a man and soldier and saw service in Chattanooga and other places of lesser importance. After receiving his discharge at Harper's Ferry, in 1864, he re-enlisted June 10, 1864, in Company I, One Hundred and Eighty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to service at Petersburg, Va., afterward taking part in the battle of Five Points and many others. During the entire period of his service, he was never wounded nor taken prisoner, and received his final discharge at Arlington Heights, June 1, 1865, having participated in the memorable grand review at Washington, D. C.

After returning home, the young soldier worked with his father until the latter's death, when he went to Lawrence County, Ill., and engaged with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad as a member of the construction gang. After four years of that work, he spent two years at Virginia with the same railroad, and then was made section foreman for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Beardstown. A few years later he was promoted to be general foreman of the railroad yards, holding that responsible position for twenty years. He then retired, although he has done some work as flagman at crossings to fill in his time.

In June, 1872, he was married at Flora, Ill., to Bridgeteen Tower, who was born in Clay County, Ill., and died in 1894. The two children of this marriage are: Margaret, who is Mrs. A. W. Whiteford, of New York City; S. J., Jr., who is of Swan Creek, Ill., being an agent for



GOTTLIEB NOLLSCH



MRS. GOTTLIEB NOLLSCH

the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Mr. Bartlett belongs to the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and has been a presiding priest since 1904. In politics he is a Prohibitionist.

BAUJAN, Otto William, a miller, and the foreman of all the elevators in the city of Beardstown operating under the name of Schnltz, Baujan & Co., merchant millers, is one of the leading men of Cass Connty and one who is leaving his impress upon contemporary business history here. He was born at Beardstown, March 10, 1871, a son of John and Catherine (Yeck) Baujan, natives of Germany. The father came to Cass County from Germany in 1852, while the mother arrived here in 1854, making the trip with her brothers. John Baujan was a brickmaker by trade and later he conducted a milling business, under the name of J. Baujan & Co., until his death Jnly 4, 1889.

Otto William Baujan was edncated at Beardstown and learned the milling business, following which, for five years, he was in the employ of the firm of J. Baujan & Co., merchant millers. He then went into bnsiness for himself and conducted the same for ten years, then sold and associated himself with his old firm, having been employed by them for the past fifteen years. He is a good jndge of hnman nature and is able to handle his men in a manner satisfactory to all.

On May 24, 1894, Mr. Baujan was married in Cass County to Nellie F. Dnchardt, born in Cass Connty, February 6, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Baujan have had two sons: Finas W. and Rayman R. Mr. Baujan owns his home at Beardstown, and is in comfortable circnmstances financially. In politics he is a Democrat, while fraternally he belongs to the Maccabees, the Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America. He was reared in the faith of the German Lntheran church but does not belong as a member to any religions organization.

BAXTER, Albert Crum, A. B., M. D.—Persistent effort along one line, when intelligently directed, is certain to bring a measure of success, and in nothing is this more true than in medicine. Even the most intelligent physician and snrgeon of today finds it necessary to continue his studies and reading in order to keep abreast of the times, and one who has succeeded to an unusual degree is Dr. Albert Crum Baxter, of Springfield, who, for some years, has been a representative member of the medical profession in Sangamon County. He was born October 9, 1880, at Literberry, Morgan County, Ill., a son of Hiram Bennett and Ellen (Crum) Baxter.

James Baxter, who founded the family in America, came from his native place, County Tyrone, Ireland, dnring the American Revolution, and located at Pittsburgh, Pa. After his arrival he married Rebecca Riddle, who was born at Berlin, Germany, so that Dr. Baxter springs from sturdy stock on both sides. Later, James Baxter moved to Ohio, selecting as his home the present site of the city of Dayton, and there his son, William Baxter, was born August 1, 1804. In 1815 the Baxter family came still further west, making the trip down the Ohio River in a flatboat to Madison, and in that neighborhood, in 1828, William Baxter was married to Jane Kerr, a danghter of Josiah Kerr, a Scotchman who had come to this locality about the same year as the Baxters. The first home of the newly married couple was a one-room, one-story ronnd log house, equipped with a door and window, a puncheon floor and stick-and-mud chimney. No nails were used in building this primitive cabin, weights being used in conjunction with poles to hold the roof in place, while the door was fastened with wooden pins. After many years spent in this house, Mr. Baxter replaced it with a large stone structure built from stone from his own quarries, and it is still in excellent repair. The children born to William Baxter and wife were twelve in number, ten sons and two daughters, and seven of these sons served their country as soldiers dnring the Civil war.

Hiram Bennett Baxter, the sixth son of William Baxter, was one of those who served as a soldier, and he was born September 22, 1840. Enlisting as a private in Company K, Twenty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, he rose to the rank of captain, taking part in the campaigns of the Army of the Cumberland, and his company was in the front on the memorable march of General Sherman's forces to the sea. Twice wonnded, he served nntil 1865, when he was honorably discharged. Of the seven sons who were soldiers, no two were in the same regiment or same battle, and the Baxter family was the only one in this section that sent so large a contingent to prove its patriotism. In 1866 Captain Baxter came to Morgan County, Ill., and followed various callings, including teaching school, conducting a general store at Literberry, and filling contracts for a railroad company. Becoming interested in agricultural matters, he began farming in 1881, near Ashland, Ill., and now owns 1,707 acres of very valuable land. He is not a member of any church, but contributes liberally to religious work. On October 4, 1876, Captain Baxter was married to Lydia Ellen Crum, a daughter of Abram Alvin Crum, of Literberry. The paternal grandparents and parents of Mrs. Baxter came from Kentucky and southern Indiana in 1831 to Morgan County, Ill., and secured land from the government at $1.25 per acre. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Baxter were of the Buchanan and Liter families, of English and German origin, respectively, and they came from Virginia to Illinois in 1832. Mrs. Baxter passed away March 26, 1907, having had two sons: Albert Crum Baxter, and William Abram Baxter, the latter being on a farm in Cass County.

Albert Crum Baxter, after attending the schools of his district, in 1897, entered Whipple Academy, at Jacksonville, from which he was graduated in 1900, and then took a literary

course at the Illinois College. In 1903 he began the study of medicine in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and was graduated from its medical department in 1907, with the degree of M. D., having previously obtained his degree of A. B., in 1904, from the literary department. He belonged to the Phi Beta Pi fraternity, the Gynecological staff, and the Phagocytes. In order to secure experience, Dr. Baxter was connected with the Morgan Hospital, of New York City, during the summer and fall of 1907, but in the winter of that same year came back to Illinois, and located at Springfield, where he has developed an excellent practice.

On April 15, 1908, Mr. Baxter was married at Beacon, Mich., to Miss Ethel J. Mitchell, born in Michigan, a daughter of Joseph and Janet (Wassley) Mitchell, natives of England. Dr. Baxter is a Knight Templar Mason, and also belongs to Springfield Consistory, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and Ansur Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, being one of its officers. He belongs to such leading professional bodies as the American Chemical Society, the Sangamon County and Illinois Medical Societies, and the American Medical Association. Politically he is a Republican.

BAXTER, Hiram Bennett, one of the extensive landholders of Illinois, and a well known and respected citizen of Cass County, was born near Madison, Jefferson County, Ind., September 22, 1840. He is of Scotch-Irish and Pennsylvania-Dutch ancestry, his parents William and Jane (Kerr) Baxter being natives of Ohio, the former born in the city of Dayton in 1804. His grandfather, James Baxter, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, came to the United States about the time of the Revolutionary war, settling near Pittsburgh, Pa., where he married a German lady whose name was Rebecca Riddle. Mr. Baxter's maternal grandfather, Josiah Kerr, was a native of Scotland.

Hiram B. Baxter is the sixth of twelve children of a family of ten sons and two daughters. The mother of this family died May 27, 1855, and the father subseqnently married her sister, Margaret Kerr, by whom he had one son. The father was a prosperons farmer, and died on his old farm in Indiana, Angnst 25, 1861, at the age of fifty-seven years. Hiram B. Baxter was reared on a farm, attended the district schools, and at the age of eighteen years was himself teaching a district school in his native county. On July 14, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, Twenty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil war, and was mustered into the service at North Madison, Ind., by Colonel (afterwards General) Thomas Wood. He participated in the Mississippi campaign under Fremont, Hunter and Curtis, taking part in the engagement at Glasgow, in which Major Tanner of his regiment was mortally wounded; was in the batle of Pea Ridge, Ark., and at the seige of Corinth, Miss. He then accompanied his regiment in General Buell's army to Louisville, Ky., a distance of nearly 400 miles, and participated in the battle of Perryville, Ky., where he received a severe rifle wound in the left knee. Of the thirty-five men in his company who were engaged in that battle, but eight remained to answer the roll call next morning. Ten were killed, thirteen wounded, and four were captured nnhnrt. The wounded were all made prisoners for the night.

Mr. Baxter rejoined his regiment at Murfreesboro, Tenn., after the battle of Stone River, in February, 1863, and then received his commission as first lieutenant of his company, being promoted from a sergeancy. In the absence of the captain, who had been wounded at the battle of Stone River, Lieutenant Baxter assnmed command of the company. The regiment remained at Murfreesboro until June 24, 1863, when it marched with General Rosecranz' army on the Tullahoma campaign following the army under General Bragg to Chattanooga. Lieutenant Baxter's command was assigned to the work of guarding a pass in the mountains near the battle ground of Chickamauga, and thus was not engaged in that battle, and was then cooped up with the balance of the army of the Cumberland under General Thomas in Chattanooga, subsisting on short rations for two months, until re-enforcements arrived under Hooker from the east, and Sherman from the west, with General Grant to take command. Then the army aroused from its lethargy and captured Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge in a grand charge all along the line, driving the enemy from their vantage ground at every point. Lieutenant Baxter was in command of Company G of his regiment in the charge on Missionary Ridge, being temporarily assigned to take charge of that company, and was in Sheridan's Division of the Fourth Corps, and ascended the ridge near where Bragg's headquarters were established. Immediately after the battle, on the next day, with his command he started in pursuit of Longstreet to relieve Burnside at Knoxville, Tenn., arriving there after a hard, forced march to find Burnside's army safe and the enemy gone. The Union army remained there for six weeks, subsisting principally by foraging over the surrounding country, camping in the woods without tents or blankets, with snow on the ground, and a damp, cold wind blowing most of the time. The men cut the timber and built huge fires to keep themselves warm, taking turns at night to keep the fire burning, and to watch that the sleepers did not get burned. Under such circumstances, Lieutenant Baxter re-enlisted as a veteran and with his company returned to Chattanooga, where they were re-mustered for three years more, or during the war. He then returned to Indiana, on a veteran furlough of thirty days. At the expiration of the furlough, he went by rail with his command, to Nashville, Tenn., and they marched to Chattanooga, where the company and regiment were assigned to Gen. Daniel McCook's brigade, in the organization of Sher-

man's army for the Atlanta campaign, and the march to the sea. Mr. Baxter was at Tunnel Hill, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca and Rome, Ga., where, in command of his company, he was again wounded in the same leg as before. He remained in the hospital and on a furlough until August 29 following, when he was honorably discharged by the secretary of war on account of "disability from gunshot wounds."

Lieutenant Baxter then returned to his home in Indiana for a time and attended a commercial school at Indianapolis. Recovering from his disability in a marked degree during the fall and winter, he again entered the service in the following February, as first lieutenant of Company B, One Hundred and Forty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and upon its organization, he was made captain of the company and served as such until the end of the war, being mustered out at Indianapolis, Ind., September 6, 1865. Six of Captain Baxter's brothers served in the Federal army during the Civil war, no two of them being in the same regiment, and all survived the conflict, and six of them are living at this time. Among the seven brothers of the Baxter family, there were two captains, one first lieutenant, one corporal and two privates, all of whom enlisted as privates. The combined service of these brothers aggregated nearly fifteen years.

After returning home at the end of the war, Captain Baxter for a time was a clerk in a railroad office at Indianapolis, but becoming dissatisfied he turned his attention westward, and on December 15, 1866, with $700 in his pocket, he arrived at Jacksonville, Ill. Near this place for a short time he worked on a farm, built fences and did all such tasks as came to his hand, in the meanwhile becoming acquainted with the people. He then taught school for four years near Jacksonville and Literberry. At the latter place, for nine years, he was afterwards engaged in merchandising, and also filling the position of postmaster, was also railroad agent, justice of the peace and notary public, was additionally engaged in the making of brick, and in furnishing the railroad with ties, posts, wood, etc. On January 21, 1881, he moved to the farm upon which he now resides in Cass County, Ill., about eight miles from Literberry. He and his two sons are now the owners of 1,707 acres of land, 1,407 acres of which are included in his homestead in Cass County, and 300 acres in Morgan County. He devotes his time to the feeding of stock and the management of his farming interests.

On October 4, 1876, Mr. Baxter was united in marriage with Lydia Ellen Crum, who died March 26, 1907. She was the only daughter of Abram A. Crum, of Morgan County. Mr. and Mrs. Baxter became the parents of two sons: Albert Crum, who is a physician and surgeon of Springfield, Ill.; and William Abram, who is at home on the old farm (Bildmore Place) with his father. In politics Mr. Baxter is a stanch, protective tariff Republican. Fraternally he is a member of the John L. Douglas Post, G. A. R., of Ashland, Ill., and was its first commander. Aside from being a well informed man and the owner of large tracts of land, Mr. Baxter's military record as detailed in this sketch enables him to bestow a priceless heritage of honor to his posterity.

BAXTER, John Henderson.—The modern farmer is no longer content with old methods and ordinary surroundings, but is wide awake and progressive, supplying himself with modern equipment, comforts and conveniences. He is making architecture and landscape gardening allies of agriculture. One of the best examples of this class of farmers in Cass County is John Henderson Baxter, of township 18, range 10. He was born in Sullivan County, Tenn., December 25, 1857, a son of Rev. Nathan and Mary (Devault) Baxter, natives of the same place.

John H. Baxter was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools of Tennessee, coming to Illinois in the spring of 1885. He worked on a farm and taught school in Christian County. On July 22, 1886, Mr. Baxter married Miss Minnie Brauer, born in Cass County, Ill., a daughter of Frederick W. and Elizabeth (Brunker) Brauer, natives of Germany and early settlers in Cass County.

After living in Chandlerville, Ill., for four years, Mr. Baxter moved on a lovely Sangamon bottom farm containing 440 acres. This farm, one among the most valuable properties in the county, was an inheritance of Mrs. Baxter from her parents and is called "Pinehurst." In 1904 Mr. Baxter's health failed and he moved with his family to central Texas and located in the city of Waco so that he might educate the two children. In 1911, having partially regained his health, he moved his family back to the Illinois farm and began extensive improvements. He is erecting the best and most beautiful residence in Cass County in which gray and white Portland cement form the most important building materials. This house is a model in architecture, convenience and comfort, semi-bungalow in style, and is lighted by electricity, heated by the Moline System of Vacuum Steam, and has the most modern plumbing system anywhere, and churning, clothes washing and vacuum cleaning are all done with electricity. More than 6000 feet of wire and ninety Tungsten lamps are used in the lighting. The outbuildings will also be lighted with electricity.

Mr. and Mrs. Baxter became the parents of two children: Ivan Elijah, who was born September 16, 1888, and Grace Mae, who was born February 8, 1891. These children were educated in Baylor University, Waco, Texas, the best school in the "Southland." The son holds the record in the institution in Latin and Greek. He took the degree of Bachelor of Arts and won a scholarship to Brown University, Providence, R. I., taking the degree of Master of Arts. After graduation he was elected to the chair of Latin in Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky., and also occupied the chair of history in St. John's Military Academy, Delafield, Wis. He was a

successful teacher but had to retire because of failing health, and then turned to agriculture. Both children live with their parents and all form a happy family.

Mr. Baxter and children are members of the Missionary Baptist church. Mrs. Baxter is a Cumberland Presbyterian. Mr. Baxter is a Prohibition Republican, and a Modern Woodman. He is a great advocate of education for the farmer's children, and is an important factor in the moral and agricultural advancement of Cass County.

BAXTER, William Abram, whose connections with the agricultural interests of Cass County are important, is one of the leading farmers of this section. He was born on Bildmore Place, this county, where he still resides, September 18, 1887, a son of Hiram Bennett and Lydia Ellen (Crum) Baxter. The father was born in Jefferson County, Ind., September 22, 1840, and the mother in Morgan County, Ill., February 3, 1855. The father was a captain in the Civil war, and has been a farmer for many years, he with his son owning and operating 1,707 acres of land in Cass and Morgan counties. An extended sketch of Hiram Bennett Baxter is to be found elsewhere in this work.

William Abram Baxter attended the common schools of Cass County, following which he took a course in the Illinois College, and then as his inclinations were for an agricultural life, he joined his father in farming and has so continued, becoming an authority upon matters relating to his calling. He and his father specialize upon feeding stock.

On October 18, 1913, Mr. Baxter was married to Willie Amelia Mitchell, at Ashland, Ill. Mrs. Baxter was born in Cass County, a daughter of William and Reasie (Skiles) Mitchell. Mr. Baxter has so devoted himself to his agricultural work that he has found no time for outside diversion, but he is an excellent type of sturdy, intelligent young manhood, and he and his kind are making Cass County what it is today.

BEARD, Robert Lee, a resident of Arenzville, Cass County, Ill., is a well known, enterprising and prosperous farmer and stockraiser, whose finely equipped and well-improved farm of 204 acres is situated in township 17, range 11, Cass County. He is a native of the township which is his present home, and was born September 25, 1865, a son of John C. and Mary Ann (Batis) Beard, of Augusta County, Va. There his parents grew up and were married, and in the fall of 1855 moved to Illinois. They bought a farm, mostly timber land, which from time to time John C. Beard increased in extent until he owned 300 acres at the period of his death, which was well improved by his labor. He was a useful and public-spirited citizen, and had held several local offices. He died in 1881, and his widow passed away in January, 1902, at the age of seventy-six years. Of the thirteen children of their union, those now living are as follows: Margaret, who is Mrs. T. B. Fozzard, of Morgan County, Ill.; Fannie, who is Mrs. J. D. Springer, of Cass County, Ill.; Elizabeth, who lives at Arenzville, Ill.; Henry C., who is a resident of Sour Lake, Tex.; William W., who is of Virginia, Ill.; and Robert L. and Amanda J., now Mrs. Joseph P. Dreesbach, are of Arenzville.

Robert Lee Beard attended the district schools in his youth, and has always lived on the home farm. On October 22, 1896, he was united in marriage with Lena E. Kircher, born in Cass County, Ill., July 21, 1872, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Rahn) Kircher, natives of Germany. After their marriage Mrs. Mary Ann Beard moved to Arenzville, but Robert L. Beard continued to reside on the home place and after his mother's death he purchased the 204 acres belonging to the other heirs. He has done general farming and has raised cattle and hogs. Mr. Beard and his wife have the following children: John Russell, Robert Raymond, Mildred Elizabeth, Mary Mae, Robert Lee, Roland Glenn, John Richard and Lena Lucille.

Mr. Beard is a thrifty farmer, a man of sound judgment, and a useful member of the community. In politics, he is a Democrat. He has served the public as school director since 1907.

BEGGS, John, one of Cass County's highly respected citizens, and a man of distinguished antecedents, resides on his farm which is situated in township 17, range 8, Cass County, five miles northwest of Ashland, Ill. He was born in Morgan County, Ill., near Princeton, August 7, 1831, and is a son of Charles and Mary (Ruddell) Beggs, and a great-grandson of James and Elizabeth (Hardy) Beggs. Very little has been preserved of their history but it is known that they came to the United States from the north of Ireland and located in New Jersey and they had, at least, two daughters, who married and reared families, and two sons, one of whom, Thomas, was born in the United States. He married Elizabeth McDowell, who was of Scotch descent but was born in Ireland. Thomas Beggs was an officer in the Revolutionary war and died of camp fever in 1778. Of his children there were: James, John, Charles, George and Elizabeth, the last named becoming the wife of John Naylor.

Charles Beggs was born in Rockingham County, Va., October 30, 1775, and on August 1, 1797, he married Dorothy Trumbo, who died in 1811. She was the mother of the following children: Elizabeth, born in Jefferson County, Ky., June 15, 1798; Sarah, born in Clark County, Ind., April 28, 1800; Mary Ann, born in Clark County, Ind., January 19, 1802; George W., born in Clark County, Indiana, November 29, 1808; and Susan and Rebecca, born in Clark County, Indiana, both died in infancy. The second wife of Charles Beggs was Mary Ruddell, born in Rockingham County, Va., April 28, 1790, and died August 4, 1871. Charles Beggs died October 21, 1869, and they were buried in Zion cemetery in Cass County. They had the following children: Cornelius, born August 16, 1813, died



Alfred J. Hollich & Wife

aged thirty-two years and was buried at Smithland, Ky.; William H., born in Clark County, Indiana, April 20, 1817; James Lemon, born November 11, 1819; Margaret, born in Indiana, December 23, 1821, married Milton Stribling; Dorothy, born in Clark County, Ind., January 21, 1826, is the widow of Samuel Sinclair, of Springfield, Ill.; Isaac W., born August 31, 1828, died unmarried when aged thirty-one years and was buried in Zion cemetery; John, born as above stated, in Morgan County, Ill.; and Thomas and Charles, both of whom died in infancy.

Immediately following his first marriage Charles Beggs and wife started on horseback for Kentucky to find a new home. Their route led up the valley of Virginia and down the valley of the Tennessee and on through Cumberland Gap and over the Boone trail to Jefferson County, Ky., where they determined to establish a permanent home. He was a farmer and felt that the new country with its opportunities and its congenial climate would entirely come up to his expectations, but he found the practice of slavery a great drawback to his peace of mind and a test of his religious principles. He was a zealous Methodist and could not forget the attitude of the founder of that faith toward slavery. Stephen R. Beggs, son of James, formed the first Methodist class at Fort Dearborn, being one of the pioneer Methodist preachers of Illinois. He died at Plainfield, Ill., aged ninety-three years. James Beggs, brother of Charles Beggs, was a graduate of William and Mary College, Virginia. In 1808 he was president of the Governor's council in Indiana, and was in the territorial legislature held at Vincennes when a system of black laws, similar to those then in effect in Illinois, was proposed, and when a test vote was taken it was found the body was evenly divided and James Beggs cast his vote against the proposed system.

Feeling that he could not rear his children in an atmosphere of slavery, Charles Beggs in 1800 was again a homeseeker. He crossed the river into the territory that later became Indiana and settled in what is now Clark County, on the bank of the Ohio River, where, shortly afterward, he was joined by his brothers, John and James. Here Charles Beggs followed a quiet, agricultural life for many years and in 1813, assisted by Abraham Epler, he built a mill and also became a merchant. The time came, however, when his upright character and business ability were so recognized by his friends that he was obliged to answer their insistent call into public life. Gen. William Henry Harrison was governor of the new territory and Mr. Beggs became a personal friend of that able statesman and was chosen a member of the convention that drafted a new constitution. Some years later they were soldiers together at the battle of Tippecanoe, in which Charles Beggs was commander of a division of cavalry. When Mr. Beggs was authorized to find a suitable place for the location of the county seat of Clark County he decided upon two farms, those of James McCampbell and Barzilla Baker, upon which, in 1806, Charlestown, named in his honor, was built and continues the county seat. There he established his store and carried on his other enterprises including river produce traffic, which proved profitable. For twenty-eight years he lived at Charlestown, educated his large family and gained honor and esteem for his usefulness in public life. In 1829 he once more decided to become a pioneer and the family traveled by wagon to Morgan County, Ill., where he acquired land near Princeton.

John Beggs was born in his father's log cabin in Morgan County, and he remembers that in his boyhood the neighborhood was wild and game was plentiful. He attended the subscription schools and assisted on the home farm. On December 18, 1855, he was married to Sarah Sinclair, born at Jacksonville, Morgan County, Ill., March 16, 1834, daughter of Samuel and Melinda (Bird) Sinclair. Mr. Sinclair was born in Tennessee, July 17, 1808, and died May 8, 1868. Mrs. Sinclair was born in Kentucky, July 17, 1810, and died July 30, 1837. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Beggs: Emma, who married Charles Edwin Bregge, was born December 29, 1856, and died August 13, 1901; Anna, who was born July 27, 1858, was married October 18, 1894, to Rev. J. O. Kirkpatrick, resides at Mt. Sterling, Ill., and they have two children, Myra Annie and John Edwin; Charles Sinclair, who was born May 23, 1860, married Helen C. Putnam, and they have two children, Thomas Putnam and Edwin Upton; John Thomas, born April 4, 1863, died March 25, 1897; Nellie, born April 6, 1865, died August 12, 1865; Myra, born July 7, 1867, resides with her father; and Samuel Watson, born December 8, 1869, married Minnie Taylor, December 18, 1894, and they live at Crandon, Wis., and have four daughters: Emma Taylor, Dorothy Alta, Jessie Margaret and Minnie Myrtle. The mother of the above family of children, Mrs. John Beggs, died November 19, 1912, and her burial was in the Centenary cemetery.

After marriage John Beggs resided with his parents for one year. In 1857 he moved on a farm he owned in township 17, range 9. The place, looking like a forest, was a wilderness of wild crabapple and plum trees. He secured 240 acres to which he later added and now has 320 acres of as fine land as can be found in the county, his son Charles S., being his partner in general farming and raising cattle, horses and Poland China hogs, the son having practically everything under his charge in late years. The clearing and improving was done by Mr. Beggs and in 1860 he remodeled the house, making it modern and comfortable. In politics he is a Republican and during many years he served as school director and as school clerk. He is a trustee of the Methodist church of which he has been a member since youth.

BELL, George Harry, one of the most capable and trusted of the locomotive engineers of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, located

at Beardstown, was born in California November 12, 1878, a son of William F. and Maria J. (Simpson) Bell, the former born in Illinois January 31, 1851, and the latter in California. The father was an engineer and butcher, who went to California when nine years old and was married in that state. He lived there for a few years afterward, and then returned to Illinois, locating in Brown County.

George Harry Bell was reared in Brown County, Ill., and educated in its public schools. He came to Beardstown as a fireman for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and earned his promotion to engineer by hard work and steady habits. He owns his residence at Beardstown, and stands well in the public esteem. In politics he is independent. For some years he has been a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Reared in the Methodist church, of which his wife is a member, he gives it his support.

On November 23, 1905, Mr. Bell was married at Clayton, Mo., to Elnora M. Briggs, born in Kansas, May 27, 1882. A history of the Briggs family is given in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Bell are the parents of one son, Harvey V., who was born at Beardstown, May 23, 1907. Mr. Bell is a very sociable, kind-hearted man and is not only highly regarded by his employers, but also by his fellow workmen.

BENSON, Cyrus J.—A young man who undoubtedly enjoys the respect and good will of his neighbors, and of all with whom he has any dealings in business or personal relations, resides at Chandlerville, Cass County, Ill., where he carries on farming and stockraising. In addition to grain farming and raising Poland-China hogs, he is engaged in the dairy business, and has considerable patronage in this line. His farm consists of eighty acres of excellent land, is situated in section 35, township 19, range 8, and he is known as one of the most industrious and thrifty among the young farmers of his vicinity.

Cyrus J. Benson was born in Menard County, Ill., January 2, 1890, and is a son of John and Etta (Thomas) Benson, the father a native of Wilmington, Del., born in September, 1855, and the mother, born in Menard County, Ill., in September, 1864. The occupation of John Benson was that of a farmer and stockraiser. When young he came with his parents to Menard County, Ill., from Delaware, and there was reared, and his wife on a neighboring farm, by her father and mother. Cyrus J. Benson attended the district schools in boyhood, and his first occupation after leaving school was working at Petersburg, Ill., as a granite cutter. Later he applied himself to farming, raising stock, and dairying, and through industry and constant application, has become successful.

On July 10, 1908, in Menard County, Ill., Mr. Benson was united in marriage with Miss Rolla Watkins, born June 26, 1888, a daughter of Curtis and Delilah (Olinger) Watkins, the former born in Menard County, Ill., December 21, 1848, and the latter, in Iowa, January 11, 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Benson have one child, Sherrell Scott Benson, born January 16, 1910.

Mr. Benson is a Republican and is a member of the Episcopal church. He is affiliated with the M. W. A. Camp No. 7666, of Petersburg, and the I. O. O. F., of Chandlerville. He is a man of very pleasant manner, one who seems to live for the betterment of all conditions within the range of his influence.

BERGEN, John J.—The debt Cass County owes the men who so wisely shaped its financial policies during its earlier years, cannot be overestimated, for upon their judgment, knowledge, experience and integrity was built up much of the present day prosperity of this section. One of the men who bore well his part in this direction is John J. Bergen, now retired, but who, for many years, was associated with the banking life of Virginia. Mr. Bergen was born at Princeton, this county, September 5, 1842, a son of Jacob F. and Eliza J. (Montgomery) Bergen, the former of whom was born May 27, 1802, in New Jersey, while his wife was a native of Kentucky. They were married in Cass County, Ill. At the time of his death, the father owned 500 acres of land in Cass and Morgan counties. His death occurred at Virginia, where he had conducted a general dry goods store for some years after leaving Princeton, where he also had been a merchant. The mother died in Princeton, Ill.

John J. Bergen was educated in the schools of his district, and the Illinois College at Jacksonville, where he attended for three years. After leaving college, he started into business for himself at Virginia, then married and after a year or so moved to his farm, two miles south of Virginia. This property of 180 acres had been given him by his father and on it he carried on farming for seven years. He then returned to Virginia and entered as a partner the firm of Stevenson & Bergen, his father and father-in-law, for the purpose of handling a general mercantile business. After several years, he moved to a farm east of Little Indian, this county, during this period being associated with his father in a general merchandise business at Little Indian. Once more he made a change, returning to Virginia, where he and his father carried on a general merchandise business at the county seat, but in 1894, he sold his interests and in April, 1896, became cashier in the Centennial National Bank, a position he held for eighteen years. In April, 1914, he resigned, although he continues a stockholder in the institution, and is also a stockholder, and secretary and treasurer, of the Little Indian Farmers Grain Elevator Company.

On December 2, 1862, Mr. Bergen was married in Cass County to Sarah C. Stevenson, born in Cass County, a daughter of William and Frances Stevenson, natives of the state of Virginia and of Kentucky, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Bergen have two daughters, namely: Louisa M., and Frances E. Mr. Bergen owns forty acres of land near Little Indian, and the family residence at Virginia, while Mrs. Bergen owns a store and eighty acres of land at Little Indian. In religious

faith, Mr. Bergen is a Presbyterian. Politically he is a Republican, but has not cared for public office. His fraternal connections are with the Masons and Odd Fellows.

BIDDLECOME, Daniel, vice president of the Centennial National Bank of Virginia, is a man of wide and varied experience. He was born in Logan County, Ky., December 17, 1824, a son of John and Elizabeth (Cawby) Biddlecome, natives of Vermont and Tennessee, respectively. John Biddlecome had many pioneer experiences. He went to Kentucky mainly by water, down the Monongahela River to Pittsburgh, Pa., in a skiff, and then on down the Ohio River. Upon his arrival in Kentucky he married Elizabeth Cawby, whom he survived five years. By occupation he was a farmer. In 1826 he drove in his one-horse wagon to Cass County, Ill., then Morgan County, in order to enter eighty acres of land which was in timber and prairie. In the fall of 1830 he located on this property, where he lived until his wife's death. His birth occurred February 29, 1795, and he died in 1870. Their children were: Nancy Ann, who is deceased; Daniel; Amauda, John, Sarah and Benjamin, all of whom are deceased; and Eliza, who is the widow of William Hayes, resides at Imogene, Iowa.

Daniel Biddlecome attended a subscription school during three months in the winter seasons, and thus gained educational training. His marriage, in 1852, took him away from home to a farm south of Virginia, but in 1856 he bought 240 acres in township 18, range 10, Cass County, which was partly improved. As soon as he took possession of it he began building, and erected his present residence and also a building on the state road. After following farming exclusively for some years, he branched out into stockraising, and bred horses, cattle, hogs and sheep. At one time he owned 480 acres, and still retains 240 acres. In addition to his farming activities which he abandoned in 1884, living since retired, he is a charter member and the vice president of the Centennial National Bank of Virginia, of which he owns fifty shares of stock. For many years he served as a township trustee and a school director, and for forty years has been a ruling elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

On October 7, 1852, Mr. Biddlecome married Amanda Frances Moore, born in Sangamon County, Ill., May 17, 1833, a daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Cooper) Moore. They were married in Henry County, Iowa, near Mt. Pleasant, by Rev. McDowie of the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Biddlecome have had the following children: Charles L., who died in 1905; John Franklin, who lives in the state of Washington; Henry Horace, who resides at Virginia, Ill.; and Edward A., who is manager of the home farm. They have ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

BIERHAUS, Edward W.—In the farming region adjacent to Virginia, Cass County, Ill., and in the country districts lying beyond, up to the line which marks the boundary of the county, are many well known men engaged in agricultural pursuits, who have been long and prominently known in connection with the progress and welfare of the community and who are interrelated with each other by family ties. Among such instances are the Crums, the Taylors, Schalls, Bierhauses and others, whose lives are portrayed in the chapters of this volume. The work is thus made especially interesting to many whose family records appear herein, by reason of the fact that it contains also life histories of relatives who have shared with them the creditable task of promoting the public prosperity. The Bierhaus and Schall families exemplify this relationship.

Edward W. Bierhaus was born in a log house in township 18, range 10, Cass County, Ill., August 17, 1868, a son of Henry Bierhaus, a sketch of whom may be found elsewhere. Edward was the seventh of nine children and made his home with his parents until his marriage, attending the district schools in his early youth, and afterwards working on the paternal farm. On November 10, 1893, Mr. Bierhaus was wedded to Caroline Schall, born in Cass County, Ill., a daughter of Charles and Mary Schall, mentioned in another portion of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Bierhaus have one son, Earl Edward, born April 28, 1903.

After his marriage Mr. Bierhaus moved to a farm of eighty acres which he bought in township 18, range 11, Cass County. Although the place was improved, he built a new barn and new sheds, corn cribs, etc., besides making other improvements. He is engaged in general farming, and devotes considerable attention to the raising of stock. The family is well liked among their neighbors, and Mr. Bierhaus is looked upon as one of the most industrious and careful of farmers, and one of the most reliable citizens in the community of which he forms a useful part. He belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian church. In politics, he supports the principles of the Republican party.

BIERHAUS, Henry H.—Among the farmers who have many acquaintances and are generally liked in the vicinity where they live, is the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this personal narrative. Reared in the vicinity of the town of Virginia, Ill., where his parents carried on farming for many years, Henry H. Bierhaus is known to most of the residents of that section, all of whom commend him as an industrious and thrifty farmer, and a useful and upright member of the community. His parents were of German nativity, possessing those sturdy traits that win success in a farming country, and their record in cultivating the soil after emigrating to their Illinois home, was a creditable heritage to the son, with which to begin his agricultural career.

Henry Harry Bierhaus was born February 6, 1864, in township 18, Cass County, Ill., and is a son of Henry and Annie (Foley) Bierhaus, who came from Germany. In his youth Henry at-

tended the Union district school, and continued to live with his father and mother np to his twenty-second year. Then, for two years, he worked ont, after which he went to McCook, Nebr., and bought a claim, where he remained six months. After returning to Cass County he was taken sick with typhoid fever, which disabled him for a year, and after recovery he stayed at home two years longer. Then he bought a farm of 100 acres, three miles north of Virginia, in township 18, range 10. The place was bnt partly improved, and the present substantial improvements were all made by him. He remodeled the dwelling and put up new buildings, and in 1909 bought forty acres more, near his first purchase, but across the road. Here he carries on general farming, having 105 acres nnder cnltivation, and the remainder in pasture and timber. A good deal of his attention is devoted to raising mnles and hogs.

In March, 1895, Mr. Bierhaus was married to Clara Schafer, born in Cass County, Ill., a daughter of Valentine and Mary (Treadway) Schafer, natives of the same county. Mr. and Mrs. Bierhaus have had three children: Neta, who died at the age of three years; Ralph and Helen. The religious connection of Mr. Bierhaus is with the Cumberland Presbyterian church. In politics, he is a Republican and has been a school director for sixteen years, during most of that time serving as clerk. He belongs to the M. W. A. of Virginia, Ill.

BIERHAUS, John M. (deceased), at one time one of the leading farmers of Cass County, is remembered by many who were his associates dnring life. He was born in Nanden, Germany, November 16, 1830. When a young man he came to the United States, and locating at Beardstown, worked among the neighboring farmers by the month for some years. He then purchased a farm in Cass County comprising eighty acres, all timber except ten acres, on which there was a log honse, in which all of his family were born. Later, he bought the D. Biddlecomb farm on which Mr. Biddlecomb was born, and still later, bought other property, which made 202 acres in the farm. After many years of hard labor he succeeded in clearing up 150 acres, which is now in cultivation. The balance is in pasture and timber. In 1894 he built a large ten-room house near the main road, where he died, August 18, 1901.

Mr. Bierhaus was married to Miss Lisetta Speidel, March 8, 1865, by Rev. Rice of the Lutheran church in Arenzville, Ill. Mrs. Bierhaus was born in Hanover, Germany, December 25, 1844, being a daughter of David and Jane Speidel, both of whom died in Germany. Mrs. Bierhaus left her native land on a sailing vessel, September 7, 1843, and arrived at New Orleans on December 26 of that same year. She went to St. Louis, Mo., by railroad, and from there on to Jacksonville by stage, and later to Arenzville.

Mr. and Mrs. Bierhaus were members of the German Lutheran church, and for the past twenty years they were members of the Shiloh Cnmberland church, of which they were stannch supporters. They were among the early settlers and passed throngh many hardships, and were always well thought of in the community. In politics Mr. Bierhaus was a Democrat. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bierhaus: Carrie, the eldest, was born Febrnary 19, 1868, and was married to Lewis Koch, October 11, 1886, and four children have blest this nnion, namely, John H., born January 7, 1888; Tillie L., born November 22, 1890; Howard W., born July 21, 1892, and Lewis E., born May 30, 1898; John M., the second child, who now rents the home place, was born September 18, 1870; on October 10, 1900, he married Louise Walker, born in Cass Connty, Ill., Augnst 17, 1875, a daughter of Colnmbns and Emma (Angier) Walker, natives of West Virginia and Cass County, respectively, and they have two children, Donald J. C., who was born Jnly 2, 1901, and Lisette J., who was born Jannary 31, 1904; Minnie J., the third child, was born March 8, 1874, and died May 11, 1899. She was a devoted Christian, beloved by all who knew her, and was sadly missed by her loved ones. Six other children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bierhaus, all of whom died in infancy.

BIERHAUS, Milton G.—Although the subject of this sketch is still on the snnny side of middle life, not having reached the meridian of his days, he has long since made his mark among his acqnaintances in that portion of Cass County, Ill., where he lives, as an intelligent, enterprising, judicious and successfnl farmer. Mr. Bierhaus is a native of the county, as is also his wife, whose origin is from one of its early families dating back towards the period of pioneer settlement.

On September 17, 1871, occurred the birth of Mr. Bierhaus, and he received his educational training in the district schools of the neighborhood. His father and mother, Henry and Elizabeth Bierhaus, were natives of Germany. The former was but seventeen years old when he came to the United States, and after his marriage he settled on rented land in the vicinity where his son, Milton G., has since made his home. At a later period, Henry Bierhaus bought an unimproved tract of land, and in the course of time became the owner of a farm of 260 acres. His wife passed away in 1876, and the busy life of her husband came to an end on January 5, 1911. Milton G. Bierhaus was the sixth child of the family of nine children. He has always lived on the Bierhaus homestead, and after his school days were over, applied himself to farming on the place, ultimately buying 180 acres of the estate. Of this he has 110 acres under cultivation, and the remainder is in timber and pasturage. Mr. Bierhaus has been engaged in grain farming, and has devoted a good deal of his attention to stockraising.

On June 11, 1907, Mr. Bierhaus was united in marriage with Addie Fox, who was born in Cass County, and is a danghter of Licurtis L.



Thomas C Nollsch and Wife

and Lucy (Cosner) Fox, also natives of this county, as before mentioned descendants from early settlers.

The Bierhauses are well known and have many friends in the section where they live. In religious connection, Mr. Bierhaus adheres to the Cumberland Presbyterian church, in which he has officiated as trustee since the year 1908. Since 1898 he has served the public as a school director, and has also acted as clerk of the school board. He belongs to the M. W. A., of Virginia, Ill.

BLACK, William Littleton, president of the Centennial National Bank of Virginia, and one of the most astute financiers of Cass County, as well as a man of sterling capability and uprightness, has long been an important factor in money circles in Cass County. He was born in Tennessee, June 8, 1829, a son of William and Mary S. (Vaughn) Black, who were married December 4, 1823. When William L. Black was an infant, his parents moved to Scott County, Ill., and in 1845 came to Cass County, locating six miles southeast of Virginia. There the mother died January 9, 1881, and was buried on the farm in the family lot. She was born in Tennessee, November 1, 1803. After her death, the father, born January 3, 1796, moved to Virginia, and there died October 6, 1884, and is buried by the side of his wife, he being then eighty-nine years old. By birth he was a Georgian. His great-grandfather was a soldier in the American Revolution.

William L. Black was reared on a farm, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until he was about fifty years old. In 1878 he moved to Virginia in order to give his children better educational opportunities, and has since made the county seat his home. Upon first coming to Virginia he engaged in a mercantile business with his brother for about eighteen years, but later, after suffering a loss by fire, he engaged in a grocery business on his own account and was in this line for seven years. He then sold and has lived retired since August 15, 1904. He was alderman of his ward for six years, was township treasurer for twenty years while living on the farm, and has always taken an active part in local affairs. He was elected president of the Centennial National Bank on the first Tuesday in January, 1896, and has since continued at the head of this institution. Fraternally he is an Odd Fellow, having joined that order in 1879, and belongs to the Christian church, which he served as treasurer for many years.

On March 24, 1857, by Reverend Callaway, of the Christian church, he was married to Andromache Naylor, who was born December 13, 1829, and died January 31, 1879, and is buried in Walnut Ridge Cemetery. She was a daughter of Alexander and Martha (Clark) Naylor. It is interesting to note that four members of the Naylor family married four of the Clark family. The latter family claims descent from George Rogers Clark, who settled in Kentucky in 1775, procuring the organization of that territory. Mr. and Mrs. Black became the parents of three children: Alice, who is the surviving widow of John S. Martin, who died May 9, 1905, has three children, Leslie, Frank and Lorene; Carrie, who died March 5, 1912; and Frances, who is Mrs. G. L. Snively. Mr. and Mrs. Snively have one daughter, Virginia, and they live at Louiston, Ill. Mr. Black still owns 160 acres of land on section 29, township 17, range 9, in Cass County, which he has improved. On this property he carried on general farming and stock-raising. Before his father died, the latter owned 200 acres of farming land in Cass County, so it can be seen that the Black family has been largely interested in agricultural matters since locating in this county.

BLACKBURN, William R., M. D.—There are few places of its size that have such skilled physicians as Virginia, and among them no one stands higher than Dr. William R. Blackburn, a physician and surgeon of note. He was born in Schuyler County, Ill., in 1867, a son of Robert S. and Tameretta (Harmon) Blackburn, and fourth in the order of birth of the six children born to his parents, and the eldest of the three of the second marriage, the other three having been born of a prior marriage.

William R. Blackburn has shown himself a dependable person since early manhood, for when he had completed his public school course and had attended Knox College and the State Normal School, he took charge of his father's mercantile business at Brooklyn, and after the latter's death, carried it on until he could sell it profitably and settle the estate. Until 1895 he was upon the road as a traveling salesman, but in that year he entered the Barnes Medical College, of St. Louis, Mo., and was graduated therefrom in 1898. Immediately thereafter he began practicing, first in Grundy County, Mo., but in February, 1900, went to Fulton County, Ill., and in October, 1910, came to Virginia, Ill., where he has since remained, immediately proving his worth, and subsequently gaining distinction. He has been president of the Cass County Medical Society, of which he is now treasurer, and he also belongs to the Illinois State Medical Society, and the American Medical Association. Fraternally, he is a Mason, having joined the order in his native county. He belongs to the Presbyterian church. While he has never taken an active part in politics, he is now serving as president of the Virginia board of health.

While living in Fulton County, Ill., Dr. Blackburn married Emily Riley, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Barlow) Riley. There are no children.

BLAIR, William.—As is the case of many of the best farmers and best citizens of whom the chapters of this volume bear record, William Blair, a farmer, who is favorably known throughout the vicinity of his home in Chandlerville, Cass County, is of Irish paternity. His father, Hugh Blair, who was born in Ireland in 1843, was one of the early settlers of this region, and worked

six years for Dr. Chandler in a packing house, which once stood on the site where Chandlerville now is located. The mother, Mrs. Susan (Cowan) Blair, who still survives, and is a resident of Chandlerville, was born in North Carolina, September 17, 1841. Hugh Blair started farming land belonging to Dr. Chandler and several years afterwards bought land in Richland Precinct, in the same county, to which he added from time to time by other purchases. Thus he finally acquired 200 acres, which he later sold, retiring then to Chandlerville, where he died June 20, 1913. The children of Hugh and Susan (Cowan) Blair were as follows: David, of Easton, Ill.; William; Mary, now Mrs. Clinton Pasley, of Girard, Ill.; Samuel, of Cass County; John, deceased; George, Harry and Louis, all of Chandlerville; and Lee, a teacher in the high school at Havana, Ill.

William Blair was born in Richmond Precinct, Cass County, Ill., February 17, 1864, and in boyhood attended the district schools of his neighborhood, and remained on the home farm in that vicinity until the time of his marriage. On April 14, 1889, he was wedded to Henrietta Davis, born December 26, 1866, in Fulton County, Ill., a daughter of Ralston and Susan (Martin) Davis, the former a native of Wisconsin, and the latter of Fulton County, both now deceased. Following his marriage, Mr. Blair made his home in Chandlerville Precinct, and in July, 1909, bought 131 acres in section 18, township 18, range 9, together with eleven acres in section 20 of the same township. He is engaged in general farming, and also raises horses, cattle, mules and hogs. Mr. Blair and his wife have two children, namely: Otis E., of Chandlerville, Ill., a veterinary surgeon; and Edgar T., of Champaign, Ill., a medical student. Politically William Blair is a member of the Democratic party, and has served as school director since 1904. He is identified with the Court of Honor and the Banker's Life Company.

BLOHM, John W., a successful farmer and stock raiser of Cass County, was born in this county, January 22, 1863, a son of John W. and Minnie (Schoppa) Blohm, natives of Germany. The father engaged in agricultural pursuits after he came to Cass County, Ill., from Germany in 1845, at that time entering land from the government. On the property thus acquired he farmed the remainder of his life. His wife was brought to Cass County from Germany by her parents and was married in this county.

John W. Blohm grew up on his father's farm and followed the life of the majority of country lads, attending the district schools during the winter months and assisting with the agricultural work in the summer. After he left school he continued to assist his father in improving the homestead until he bought 200 acres of land for himself. Of this he sold eighty acres, but later bought forty acres, now having 160 acres in one body, and he not only operates this, but all the adjoining property he can rent, his operations being carried on upon an extensive scale. His methods are such that he is making a success of his work, and he is recognized as one who understands farming thoroughly.

On January 18, 1890, Mr. Blohm married Emma Coleman, born in Cass County in 1871, a daughter of Charles and Alice (Treadway) Coleman, natives of Germany and Cass County, respectively. Mr. Coleman is a farmer and stockraiser. Mr. and Mrs. Blohm have had six children, namely: William C., Nellie May, Alice, Ruth, Elizabeth and Doris. For the past fourteen years Mr. Blohm has been a school director, having been elected on the Democratic ticket. For twenty years he has been a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a man who makes and retains friends as he is sociable and good natured, and those who know him speak very highly of him in every respect.

BLUME, Charles.—If a snug competency, acquired by patient and unremitting labor in agricultural pursuits, is evidence of good qualities in a farmer, Charles Blume is entitled to rank among the most efficient and successful of his class in the vicinity of Beardstown, Cass County, Ill., where he has long made his home. As in the case of a considerable proportion of the farming element of this and other counties of the state, Mr. Blume is of German origin, and is one of the oldest residents of this section, having lived in Cass County nearly fifty years. Beginning in a humble way, he has plodded on, until by industry, economy and thrift, he has reached a position where he can enjoy all the comforts of life for the remainder of his years.

Charles Blume was born in Prussia, Germany, December 18, 1846. He emigrated to the United States at an early age, and proceeding to Illinois, located in Cass County in 1866, working at the outset for different farmers at $10 per month. In 1871 he purchased eighty acres of land, on which he carried on farming for sixteen years. At the end of this period he bought 200 acres more, 40 of which was in timber. Here he has since been engaged in general farming, devoting a portion of his attention to the raising of stock. His farm is situated in township 18, range 11, n, and is deemed one of the most desirable in this vicinity. All his undertakings have met with success, and he is looked upon as a prosperous and substantial farmer.

During his youth Mr. Blume enjoyed the advantages of the public school system in his native land, and is an intelligent man and a well informed member of the community. On February 23, 1876, he was united in marriage with Carrie Stuke, born in Cass County, a daughter of William and Mary (Lucking) Stuke, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Blume have had three children, namely: William and Annie, both of whom died in infancy; and Robert, who is at home and assists his father on the farm, having received a common school education in the neighborhood. Mr. Blume is a member of the Lutheran church, of which he has served

as a trustee for many years. In politics he acts with the Democratic party.

BOONE, Howard B., M. D., physician and surgeon, at Chandlerville, Ill., is one of the medical men of Cass County who is doing much to maintain the high standard set for those of his profession, and at the same time proving himself a most desirable and public-spirited citizen. He was born at Tocopola, Miss., May 30, 1871, a son of William Sanford and Ophelia (Watson) Boone. The father was born in Georgia, and without doubt belonged to the same family as the illustrious Daniel Boone of Kentucky.

When he was twelve years old, Howard B. Boone had the misfortune to lose his father, and he then came to Chandlerville, Ill., to live with Dr. N. H. Boone, who reared him and to whom Dr. Boone feels he owes a heavy debt. After being graduated from the high school of Chandlerville, Howard B. Boone spent four years in Eureka College, at Eureka, Ill., from which he was graduated in 1893, with the degree of A. B., and in the fall of that year he entered the medical department of the Northwestern University of Chicago, from which he was graduated June 17, 1897, with the degree of M. D. During his vacations, Dr. Boone improved his time by spending those months in Chicago hospitals. After his graduation in 1897, Dr. H. B. Boone came back to Chandlerville where he immediately entered upon an active practice in conjunction with Dr. N. H. Boone and this association has since continued. He has been a progressive leader in church and public school work and for many years was president of the board of education of Chandlerville, and during his incumbency in that office, the present modern high school building was erected. While a Democrat in his tendencies, Dr. Boone is an independent voter. Understanding the importance of sanitary arrangements, Dr. Boone has done much to improve the building laws of Chandlerville, as evidenced by the new school and church buildings, and he is ever to be found on the side of progress. He is a Master Mason, a Modern Woodman, and belongs to other fraternal organizations. Professionally he is a member of the Cass County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Dr. Boone is a firm believer in and ardent supporter of the faith of the Disciples of Christ, and for sixteen years has been superintendent of the Christian Sunday school of Chandlerville, and for years was president of the Cass County Sunday School Association and is now a member of the executive committee of the same association.

On December 21, 1897, Dr. Boone was married to Una May Hall, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Hall. Mr. Hall was noted as a scientist, and at his death, when Mrs. Boone was a child, left a large geological collection which is now in the hands of the Hall family at Athens, Ill. Dr. and Mrs. Boone have had two sons. Brooks Nathaniel, the eldest and only survivor, was born June 26, 1900. Their second son, who was born two years later, only lived a short time. Dr. Boone owns 240 acres of land near Chandlerville, his residence and another residence property at Chandlerville. He owns stock in and is a director of the Peoples State Bank of Chandlerville, and is a man of substance as well as one of the leading medical men of Cass County.

BOWMAN, William C., is numbered among the older residents of Cass County, Ill., and is one of the best known and most favorably regarded farmers within its limits. He is approaching the half century period of his life in the county, which began in his early manhood, and after long tilling the soil in this vicinity with successful results, has withdrawn from active pursuits, and is spending the later years of a busy life in leisurely and comfortable retirement. Having reaped the practical fruits of an industrious career, he is now resting in the enjoyment of a well earned reputation for economy, sobriety, good judgment and honorable dealing.

William C. Bowman is a native of the state of North Carolina, where his birth took place in Alexander County, November 14, 1849. His parents were born in the same state, his father, Jesse Bowman, being a native of the same county, and his mother, Sarah (Hefner) Bowman, of Catawba County. Both died in North Carolina. Coming to Illinois in 1869, their son, William C., worked for twelve months on a farm in Cass County, after which he rented different farms for five years. Then, buying forty-six acres lying nine miles east of the town of Virginia, he started farming for himself and continued until he sold the place about five years later. His next farm comprised eighty acres, and after remaining on it ten years, he disposed of it, purchasing a 160-acre farm two miles north of Virginia. Forty-six acres of this he subsequently traded for forty-nine and one-half acres located half a mile distant. There he lived from 1883 until 1901, when he moved into Virginia, although he continued to conduct the farm until the fall of 1911, when he rented the place out and retired from active life. Besides grain farming, he always engaged in raising horses and Poland-China hogs.

Mr. Bowman was first married in October, 1872, to Melinda Haynes, a native of Illinois, born in Cass County. They had one son, Carl Theodore, who died in infancy, and the mother died in 1875. On February 14, 1879, at Jacksonville, Ill., by Rev. David Strain, Mr. Bowman was wedded to Emma Boatman, who was born in Randolph County, Mo., January 9, 1862, and is a daughter of Nelson and Elizabeth (Todd) Boatman, natives of near Lexington, Kentucky. They came to Cass County, where both died. They had the following children: Della, who became Mrs. Edward Millner, of Peoria, Ill., has two children, Eugenia and Virginia M.; William Lee, of Rock Island, Ill.; May, who married Howard Jockish, of Cass County, and they have Reta D., Mary E., Marjorie G., and Dorothy M.; Harry

J., of Rock Island; and Myrtle E., Reta B. and Jessie E., all died in infancy. Politically Mr. Bowman is a Democrat. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has officiated as a trustee since 1904.

BRANDON, Paris A., M. D., whose success as an eye and ear specialist proves the wisdom on the part of members of the medical profession in devoting their time and attention to speeified branches of their calling. Dr. Brandon has made his name known in several Illinois cities, but is now located, his patients trust permanently, at Beardstown. He was born at Rochester, N. Y., October 22, 1830, a son of John and Margaret (Walker) Brandon. The father was born in Monroe County, N. Y., while the mother was a native of Virginia. Until 1844 the father was a farmer, but in that year went to Virginia, where he conducted salt works in Campbell County, that state, for five years. He then went to Bartholomew County, Ind., and bought a tract of land on whieh was a saw and grist mill, and was engaged in operating these mills until his death, which oecurred about nine years later. His widow moved to Decatur, Ill., where she died July 2, 1906, at the extreme old age of ninety-nine years ten months and seven days.

When he was twenty-one years old Paris A. Brandon was graduated from the Mann Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, and began practicing at St. Omer, Ind. Two years later he went to Indianapolis. With the first call for troops for the Civil war he enlisted in April, 1861, and was commissioned by Governor Morton of Indiana as surgeon in the Seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry. In 1863, when the company was re-organized, he eontinued as surgeon, and remained in the service until September 9, 1865, when he was honorably discharged.

At the battle of Cheat Mountain he was shot in the head. He also participated in the battles of Martinsburg, Phillipi and others of lesser importance. After his discharge he went to North Grove, Ind., and began the practice of his profession, but a year later located at Decatur, where, with two brothers he specialized in diseases of the eye and ear, and conducted a large infirmary. This partnership eontinued nine years, and then Dr. P. A. Brandon went to Quincy, Ill., where he practieed five years. For the next year he was at Virginia, Cass County, and then located at Beardstown, where he has sinee continued, devoting himself to diseases of the eye and ear.

Dr. Brandon was married in 1853 to Lodema Lee, a native of St. Omer, Ind., and they had seven children: John L., who is of Pana, Ill.; William S., who is of Lockport, Ill.; Margaret, who is deceased; Caroline, who is deceased; Ada, who is Mrs. Charles Peernot, of Kansas City, Mo.; Dora, who is Mrs. A. L. Coil, of Beardstown; and Jesse D., who is at home. After the death of his first wife, he married (second) Jane Rosenberger, widow of Judge Havkluft, and they had one son, Harry, who is of Pueblo, Colo. The second Mrs. Brandon died December 29, 1872. On January 14, 1902, he married (third) Victoria O. Coil, widow of Jacob Coil. By her first marriage Mrs. Brandon had six children, namely: Lacount, Joseph, Albert S., William Noah and Laura (Mrs. Foree), of Missouri. Dr. Brandon has always been a Democrat. He was made a Mason at Quincy, Ill., and has attained to the Royal Arch degree.

BRAUER, Mrs. Anna E.—The lady whose name furnishes the caption of this biographical narrative, one of the most estimable among the many farmers' wives who have managed attractive homes in Cass County, Ill., was born in Menard County, Ill., November 30, 1861. She is the widow of Louis E. Brauer, formerly a well known and prosperous farmer of Cass County, who was born in this county, in the vieinity of the village of Arenzville, July 8, 1854. The father and mother of Louis E. Brauer were natives of Hanover, Germany, whenee they emigrated in early life to this country and settled in Illinois.

On reaching manhood, Louis E. Brauer engaged in the work of raising grain and stock. He had received a good common school education in his earlier life. He was married on November 5, 1879, in Menard County, by Rev. William Fotsch, to Anna E. Blome. Soon after marriage they moved to Christian County, Ill., where they lived seven years on a farm. Returning at the end of this period, first to the Baxter place, in Cass County, he later settled on another farm, of 239 acres, where he remained twenty-two years, when death terminated his career, June 27, 1912. He was buried in the Hickey cemetery. Politically, Louis E. Brauer was eonnected with the Republican party, and served in the eapacity of sehool director about eight years. In religious belief he was an adherent of the Methodist church.

Mrs. Brauer's parents were George and Elizabeth (Moral) Blome, natives of Hesse Cassel, Germany, whence they emigrated, in 1855, to Beardstown, Ill., from which plaee they moved to a farm whieh Mr. Blome bought in Menard County. This farm Mr. Blome still owns, but on account of the poor health of Mrs. Brauer's mother they prefer to make their home with her daughter, Mrs. Brauer, near Oakford. Mrs. Brauer's farm, containing 239 acres, is situated in section 21, townsbip 19, range 8. To her union with Louis E. Brauer were born nine children, as follows: George W., Albert F., Julia M., Minnie E., Henry L., Edward C., Elsie L., Louis E. and Anna E. Of these, three are married and engaged in farming for themselves, while four dwell at home, and two are at Stonington in Christian County.

BRAUER, Henry Louis.—Cass County contains a considerable proportion of the younger element of agriculturists among its representative farmers, and of these not the least worthy of mention is Henry Louis Brauer, an industrious and energetic resident of the vieinity of Oakford. He was born in Cass County, April 13, 1888, and



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is a son of Louis Ernest Brauer, who was born in the same county, near Arenzville, on July 8, 1854. The maiden name of his mother was Ann Elizabeth Blome, born in Menard County, Ill., November 30, 1861. Louis E. Brauer devoted himself to the cultivation of the soil throughout his active life. He passed away June 27, 1912, respected by all who knew him. After his marriage he moved to Christian County, Ill., where he lived on a farm for seven years, and for five years on a farm west of Chandlerville. He carried on farming on 239 acres of land during a period of twenty-two years, near Oakford, at the end of which time his busy career came to an end. In early life he had acquired a fair common school education. In politics he was connected with the Republican party, and served about six years as school director of his district. He was a member of the Methodist church.

In boyhood Henry Louis Brauer attended the district schools of his neighborhood, after which he devoted his time to working on the farm. His present farm consists of 126½ acres of good land, and is located on sections 17, 20, 29, township 19, range 8, in Cass County, Oakford, Ill., being the postoffice address.

On October 17, 1911, Henry Louis Brauer was united in the bonds of wedlock with Talitha McHenry, whose birth took place in Menard County, Ill., October 30, 1889. She is a daughter of Goren and Mary (Hillyer) McHenry, the former of whom was born in Menard County, September 11, 1860, and the latter, July 8, 1863, in the same county. They have one child, Ewell Edward, born November 26, 1912.

Henry Louis Brauer supports the Methodist church, and in political affairs he adheres to the policies of the Republican party. He is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., Lodge No. 724, of Chandlerville; the M. W. A.; and the Eastern Star, Mrs. Brauer also being a member. Mr. Brauer is an intelligent man, of firm character, and is respected by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

BRECH, John C.—The well known resident of Virginia Precinct whose name constitutes the caption hereof, is considered one of the foremost farmers in township 18, range 10 N., Cass County. Having lived in this county all his life, he has here built up an enviable reputation as an enterprising and prosperous agriculturist, and as an honorable and worthy citizen of the community in which he has filled responsible local offices for a long period. Mr. Brech was born in Beardstown, Ill., September 2, 1860. He is a son of Charles C. and Catherine (Ulrich) Brech.

Charles C. Brech came from Westbaden, Germany, in 1854, and went to work on a farm near Beardstown, and Catherine Ulrich, a native of the same city, came to the United States in the following year, and located also at Beardstown, where they were married. In 1868 they moved to Arenzville, which was their home until 1872, when Mr. Brech bought ninety-six acres in section 30, township 18, range 10, land that was partly improved. On this place Mr. Brech completed the improvements, and carried on farming until he died, passing away in 1891. His first wife died in 1863, and Mr. Brech had taken for his second wife Carolina Tribswasser, who was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, and was brought to Cass County when two years old. The children of the first marriage were: Carrie and Philip, both deceased; Emma, Mrs. James A. Gleason, of Springfield, Ill.; John C.; and Lucy, deceased, who was Mrs. William Spengler. By the father's last marriage, the children were: Elizabeth, deceased, who was Mrs. Frank Baff; Tina, now Mrs. Charles Kruse, of Iowa; and Lena, now Mrs. Henry Schall, of Morgan County, Ill.

John C. Brech attended the district schools in his youth, and always resided at home with his father. On August 2, 1887, he was married to Hannah Rosina Bierhaus, who was born in Bluff Springs Precinct, Cass County, September 18, 1860, and is a daughter of Henry and Anna Clara (Pholey) Bierhaus, natives of Germany. Henry Bierhaus came by way of New Orleans to St. Louis, where he studied bookkeeping, but after a short time proceeded on to Beardstown, Ill. His wife, when a young lady, came with a friend to the same point and they were married there and settled near Bluff Springs, where they remained two years. In 1863 they bought their farm in township 18, range 10, and Mr. Bierhaus kept adding to it. He retired and moved, in 1888, to Beardstown, and in 1901 to Los Angeles, Cal., dying there January 5, 1903. His body was cremated. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Bierhaus were: Hannah Rosina; Elizabeth (Mrs. William Cramer), of Tacoma, Wash.; Henry, of Cass County, Ill.; Anna, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Edgar, of township 18, range 11, Cass County, Ill.; Milton, and Louise, now Mrs. D. P. Proctor, of Los Angeles, Cal.

After his marriage Mr. Brech rented land one mile from the home place for a year, and then purchased a 40-acre farm adjoining the homestead. There he lived until 1896, when he moved into the paternal dwelling, where he has since continued to reside. He is the owner of 128 acres of land with two residences, one of them being a very picturesque cottage, which he has substituted for the home that was destroyed by fire July 31, 1913. He is engaged in raising grain.

Mr. and Mrs. Brech have three children: Myrtle, who is Mrs. Albert Buxton, of Cass County, Ill.; and Royal C. and Zella Louise, who are at home. The mother of this family is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. In politics Mr. Brech is a Republican, and has rendered efficient service in several important local capacities. From 1899 until the present he has acted as highway commissioner; has held the office of county commissioner, and has served on the school board, and, in fact, so highly do his fellow citizens appreciate his services that they have kept him in public office almost continually since he was twenty-one years old. He is a member of the M. W. A., of Virginia, Ill.

BREEDEN, H. A., is of the close corporation of Uptnor, McIntire & Breeden, which has a capital stock of $25,000, and is one of the snbstantial concerns of Virginia. The honse was fonnded by Salzenstein Bros., but the present company bonght the store on September 11, 1911, when the present name was adopted, and these officers were selected on March 23, 1912: J. W. McIntire, president; Hugh A. Breeden, secretary and treasurer; and Clem Uptnor, vice-president. The company conduct a department store, handling everything in the line of ladies' and men's furnishings and shoes. The store is located on the east side of the square, Virginia, in the Robertson building, and is solely under the management of the three whose names appear in the company's title.

H. A. Breeden was born at Barry, Pike County, Ill., September 17, 1880, a son of Alonzo and Mary (Bargain) Breeden. Reared in Pike County and educated there and at the Gem City Business College, Quincy, Ill., he made the most of his opportunities. Before completing his edncational training he worked for a time at Barry, Ill., and then went to Minneapolis, Minn., as a clerk in a clothing store, and subsequently spent three years at Kansas City, Mo. Following this he came to Virginia, Ill., and for nine months was in the employ of the Warner Randolph Co., of that city, prior to entering the employ of Salzenstein Bros. For seven years he worked for this house as a clerk, and then, with his present associates, incorporated the corporation of Uptnor, McIntire & Breeden.

On April 3, 1911, Mr. Breeden married Rose Widmayer, a daughter of E. P. and Mary (Ream) Widmayer. Mr. Breeden belongs to the Royal Arcanum. The Methodist church holds the membership of his wife and his family, and profits from his generosity. A business man of more than ordinary ability, he has conserved his energies, and forged to the front until he is justly regarded as one of the leading factors of Virginia.

BRIGGS, John C., who is an old resident of Cass County, Ill., and one of its most popnlar citizens, has officiated continuously as a justice of the peace in Beardstown since his election to this office in 1902. During his entire incumbency he has performed his duties with ability, impartiality and efficiency and is considered a thoroughly competent magistrate. He has a large acquaintance among all classes of people in Beardstown, and the number of his friends is limited only by the extent of his aquaintance.

John C. Briggs is a native of Springfield, Ill., where his birth took place Jannary 9, 1848. His parents were James and Snsan (Clements) Briggs, the former born in the vicinity of Zanesville, Ohio, and the latter being of Kentucky nativity, born in Lincoln County. Their marriage took place in Springfield, Ill., where James Briggs was engaged in the blacksmithing trade until 1851, when he moved to Logan County, Ill., and applied himself to special trade work. He also owned a farm, on which he died in March, 1859, his widow passing away in 1904. Their children were as follows: William H. and George W., deceased; Samnel, of Dallas, Tex.; John C.; Snsan (Mrs. E. Harrold), of Arkansas City, Kans.; Mary M., widow of Thomas Weller, of Ottawa, Kans.; Emma J. (Mrs. Kinney), of Lawrence, Kans.; and Joseph, of Lenora, Okla.

Until his marriage, John C. Briggs lived at home, attending the district schools of the neighborhood in his youth, and being a stndent in Lincoln University for one year. In March, 1864, Mr. Briggs enlisted in Company B, Thirty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served through the Atlanta campaign, sharing in Sherman's great march to the sea, taking part in many skirmishes, and finally marching in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C. He was transferred to service on the plains in July, 1865, was mnstered ont at Leavenworth, Kans., and was honorably discharged September 19, 1865.

On Angnst 19, 1870, he was wedded to Kate De Haven, born in Booneville, Mo., a danghter of Capt. David and Jennie De Haven, the father being captain of a Mississippi River steamer. The children of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Briggs were as follows: Jennie A. (Mrs. John Pritchatt); Susie E. (Mrs. J. M. Brown); Mary A. (Mrs. George B. Fritz); and John C., all of Beardstown, Ill.; Kate (Mrs. Samnel Hakes), of Pekin, Ill.; Elnora M. (Mrs. G. H. Bell), of Beardstown, Ill.; and Ralph A., at home. The mother of this family died April 13, 1909. After his marriage, Mr. Briggs lived on a farm in Logan County, Ill., whence he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, returning shortly to Illinois and locating in Lincoln, where he was employed six months in the railroad roundhonse. Later he went again to Logan Connty, and two years afterwards to Marion County, Kans., where he carried on farming six years. In 1882 he settled in Beardstown, working in different capacities, for the B. & O. and C. B. & Q. Railroad Companies nntil 1889. At that time he was employed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York, with which he remained four years. In 1902 he was elected a justice of the peace, which position he has since held. Mr. Briggs is a member of the Christian church. Politically he acts with the Democratic party.

BROCKER, John.—The drug store of John Brocker at Beardstown is a model of its kind, and its name stands for purity of drugs and uprightness of business methods. Mr. Brocker was born at Beardstown April 17, 1870, a son of Frederick and Catherine (Harmmely) Brocker, the former born in Lippedemott, Germany, March 7, 1825, and the latter in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, June 14, 1835. The father came to the United States in 1844, and to Beardstown that same year. He was a butcher and pork packer for many years.

John Brocker was educated in the schools

of Beardstown, and learned his profession in that city. He worked for different druggists for seventeen years, and then started in business in 1902. In 1909 Mr. Brocker bought out his partner, and has since continued alone. He owns his business and the building in which it is located. This was the first drug store to be established at Beardstown. A Democrat, Mr. Brocker served during 1909 and 1910 as city treasurer. He is a Knight of Pythias and an Elk, and enjoys his fraternal connections. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran church, but is not connected with any religious denomination.

On December 28, 1895, Mr. Brocker was married, in Cass County, to Josephine Kenworthy, born in Lacine, Kas., January 14, 1873. Her parents died when she was very young, and she came to live with her grandparents who resided in the vicinity of Arenzville. John Brocker has two brothers and a sister at Beardstown. Mr. Brocker is noted for his industry and social qualities, and he stands exceptionally well in his community, where as boy and man he has worked and carried on business enterprises.

BROCKER, William, for a number of years a skilled carpenter of Cass County, but now living retired at Beardstown, is one of the men who has helped, in his own ways, to make this city what it is today, a busy, industrial center. He was born in Germany, March 19, 1837, a son of Samuel and Sophia (Hofer) Brocker. These parents came to the United States on a sailing vessel via New Orleans, and from thence up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, arriving in 1849. There the father and three daughters died of cholera. The mother, with the five living children, went on to Watertown, Wis., where she died in 1850, and the children were thus left orphans. The eldest, Fred, went to Beardstown, where the others joined him in 1851, and they tried to keep house together, but in a short time William was bound out to learn the carpenter trade. He continued with the same party for six years, and then, at the age of twenty-one years, began working at his trade by the day. After several years he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and after working as a carpenter for several years took charge of the pattern shop, thus continuing for twenty years, when, in 1904, he retired.

On October 13, 1863, he married Dorothy Cratz, born in the southern part of Germany, a daughter of George and Catherine (Getta) Cratz, who were early settlers of Beardstown. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Brocker have been: Frank, who is at home; Sophia, who is Mrs. William Duffelmeier, of Beardstown; Catherine, who is at home; William, who is of Beardstown; Minnie, who died July 4, 1908, was the wife of Oscar Finning, and left a daughter, Lurenna, whom Mr. Brocker is rearing; Amelia, who is at home; and Samuel, who is of Beardstown. Mr. Brocker is an excellent example of the self-made man, for he certainly had no assistance after his arrival in this country, and his educational advantages, which were scanty, were confined to those afforded by his native land. The Lutheran church holds his membership. In politics he is a Republican.

BROCKHOUSE, Albert Frederick.—The present high standard of agricultural conditions in Cass County may be accredited in large part to the activities of the younger generation, whose progressive ideas, modern methods and tireless enthusiam have contributed largely to the material welfare of farming interests here. Prominent among the men of this class is found Albert Frederick Brockhouse, whose fine farm is located in the vicinity of Virginia, Ill., upon which he is carrying on successful and extensive farming and stock raising operations. Mr. Brockhouse was born at Chapin, Ill., July 28, 1884, and is a son of William and Catherine (Barkhouse) Brockhouse. William Brockhouse was born at Chapin, Ill., whence his parents, natives of Germany, had come in young married life. He married Catherine Barkhouse, of German and English parentage, and also a native of Chapin, and both passed away in April, 1892. They were the parents of three children: Albert Frederick; and J. D. and Clara, both of Chapin, Ill.

Albert F. Brockhouse was a lad of eight years when he lost his parents, and at that time he went to live at the home of his uncle, Dick Brockhouse, near Chapin. His education was secured in the district schools of Chapin and in Cass County, and he was reared a farmer, remaining with his uncle and aunt until 1908, in which year he purchased 150 acres of land in township 17, range 10. He has labored assiduously in placing his land under a high state of cultivation and now has an attractive and valuable farm on which he raises large crops. His buildings are of substantial character and his machinery and equipment of the most up-to-date kind, and in all respects the property reflects the good management, thrift and business ability of its owner. In addition to general farming, Mr. Brockhouse engages in raising red and black hogs, and his ventures along both lines have been uniformly successful.

Mr. Brockhouse is unmarried. He is a Democrat in his political inclinations, and his fraternal connection is with the Modern Woodmen of America, his lodge being at Virginia.

BROEKER, John.—The drug store of John Broeker at Beardstown is a model of its kind, and its name stands for purity of drugs and uprightness of business methods. Mr. Broeker was born at Beardstown, April 17, 1870, a son of Frederick and Catherine (Hamel) Broeker, the former born in Lippe Detmolt, Germany, March 7, 1825, and the latter in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, June 14, 1835. The father came to the United States in 1844, and to Beardstown that same year. He was a butcher and pork packer for many years, later on in life becoming a lather, so continuing until his death in 1898.

John Broeker was educated in the schools of

Beardstown, and learned his profession in that city. He worked for different druggists for seventeen years, and then started in business in 1902, in partnership with L. F. Cronhardt. This association continued for seven years, and then Mr. Broeker bought out his partner, and has since continued alone. He owns his business and the building in which it is conducted. This was the first drug store to be established at Beardstown. A Democrat, Mr. Broeker served during 1909 and 1910 as city treasurer. He is a Knight of Pythias and an Elk. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran church.

On December 28, 1895, Mr. Broeker was married at Lincoln, Ill., to Josephine Kenworthy, born in Lacygne, Kas., January 14, 1873. Her parents died when she was very young, and she came to live with her grandparents who resided in the vicinity of Arenzville. John Broeker has two brothers and one sister and all live at Beardstown. Mr. Broeker is noted for his industry and social qualities, and he stands exceptionally well in his community, where as boy and man he has worked and carried on business enterprises.

BUCK, Charles, who died September 18, 1914, was an honored veteran of the Civil war and one of the successful agriculturalists of Cass County. He was born at Buffalo, N. Y., July 25, 1839, a son of Augustus and Eliza (Alexander) Buck. He was born in New York in 1811, a son of Frederick Buck, of Saxony, Germany. She was born March 13, 1811, and died in 1851, a daughter of John and Olive (Bolson) Alexander, natives of Connecticut and of the Mohawk Valley, N. Y., respectively. Augustus Buck, after marriage in New York state in 1834, located at Buffalo, N. Y., and later removed to Rochester. He was a woodworker by trade, and in the fall of 1854 came to Cass County, buying 320 acres in township 18, range 9, Chandlerville Precinct, and moved on the place. It was covered with brush and timber and it was hard work to clear it, but Augustus Buck commenced at once and gradually placed it under cultivation, and continued to improve it until his death in the fall of 1873. His children were as follows: Alexander, who is on the old farm; Lucinda, who died in infancy; Alonzo, who is in Pekin, Ill.; Charles; Eugene and Edgar, both of whom died while in service during the Civil war; and Eliza, who became Mrs. Charles Roberts, and died in Kansas. After the death of his first wife, Augustus Buck married Mrs. Rachel Hussy. The eldest son of Mr. Buck, Alexander, was taken when three years old by his maternal grandparents to Clarendon, Orleans County, N. Y., and there grew to manhood. He became a maker of musical instruments, and in 1857 came to Galesburg, Ill., where he was engaged in his line of work for two years. He then returned to Orleans County, N. Y., and in 1863 went to Cleveland, Ohio, and continued in that city until 1912, engaged in tuning organs and pianos. He then joined his brother Charles in Cass County, and lived with him until the latter's death. He was married in 1867, at Cleveland, to Orphia C. Ticknor, of New York, who died September 25, 1912, leaving no issue. Another brother, Alonzo Buck, is a painting contractor of Pekin, Ill. He enlisted from Illinois in the Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served four years in the Civil war. He has three sons and two daughters.

Charles Buck remained with his parents until the death of his mother, when he was taken to the home of his grandfather Alexander. On August 22, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Civil war in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, and was stationed for eighteen months at Baltimore, Md. In the spring of 1863 he participated in the battle of the Wilderness, and was with the Army of the Potomac until the surrender of General Lee, which he witnessed. He also took part in the memorable grand review of the victorious troops at Washington. Following this, on June 5, 1865, he was honorably discharged and went to Orleans County, N. Y., where he spent a few months, then came to visit his father in Cass County, Ill., spending a year with him. Going then to Cleveland, Ohio, he began work in an organ factory and remained for years. In the meanwhile the father died and in 1876 he located on 280 acres of his father's farm, which he bought from the heirs. In the fall of 1887 he rented out the farm, and returned to Cleveland, where he worked as a carpenter and painter until October, 1903, when he came back to his farm and continued to operate it. He had about fifty-five acres under cultivation, sold eighty acres, and the balance is in timber and pasturage.

On May 7, 1868, Mr. Buck was married at Cleveland, Ohio, to Louisa Kugler, born in Germany, October 20, 1843, a daughter of George and Dorothy C. (Bernhart) Kugler, who came to the United States in 1848. Mr. and Mrs. Buck had one daughter, Iva Eugenia, who was born January 25, 1869, and died April 1, 1893. Mr. Buck voted with the Republican party. He was well known over the county and had many friends.

BUCK, Walter E.—It is worthy of note that some of the ancestral names prominently mentioned in the course of this and other interesting narratives pertaining to the lives of present residents of Cass County, Ill., are suggestive in relation to the early settlement of the county.

Among such instances is that of Walter Elmer Buck, one of the leading educators of this section, and elected county superintendent in 1914. Mr. Buck was born at Beardstown, Ill., December 28, 1883, and is a son of Martin V. and Nancy A. (Driskill) Buck and a grandson of Thomas Buck, an early settler and the founder of a fine family.

Martin V. Buck was a native of Cass County, Ill., where his birth took place September 2, 1839. His father, Thomas Buck, came to Illinois from North Carolina about the year 1830, and settled on a tract of farming land in the

John W. Phelps and Family

vicinity of Hagener Station, where he applied himself successfully to agricultural pursuits. Julia Hardy (the maiden name of his wife) was a native of North Carolina. Martin Buck grew to manhood on this farm and followed a farmer's life for a number of years. About 1880 he moved to Beardstown, and entered the employ of the C. B. & Q. R. R. Company, for which he worked as a flagman and in other capacities, remaining with the company nearly twenty-five years. Martin V. Buck married Nancy A. Driskill, a daughter of John and Mary (Ruby) Driskill. Mrs. Buck died February 18, 1909, and Mr. Buck survived her until April 9, 1912. To Mr. and Mrs. Buck were born ten children, as follows: Edmund, deceased; Theresa, Marcus and Alice, who live at Beardstown; Charles, Oscar, Oswald and Oley, all deceased; and Harry and Walter E., who live in Beardstown.

Walter E. Buck attended the public schools of his neighborhood during his youth, and afterwards took a high school course, graduating with the class of 1901. He subsequently became a pupil in the State Normal School, and still later, matriculated in the University of Illinois, teaching a portion of the time in the meanwhile in Cass County. Since completing his collegiate tuition he has continued in the line of educational effort, accepting a principalship in the Central School, Beardstown, in 1909, where he was occupied until 1914, when he was elected county superintendent of schools. Mr. Buck is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church, Beardstown, a member of the official board and very active and highly efficient in church work. He has held various church and Sunday school offices, and is a member of the Bible class. In fraternal life Mr. Buck is identified with the I. O. O. F., having passed all the chairs and is a member of the Grand Lodge, and is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. Personally he is held in much esteem, great respect being shown for his scholastic attainments and warm regard for his estimable traits of character.

CALDWELL, Charles (deceased), was a native of Mt. Savage, Md., where he was born July 10, 1836. His parents, Patrick and Mary (Reynolds) Caldwell, were natives of Ireland, who emigrated to the United States in early youth and located in the state of Maryland, where they later were joined in wedlock. Shortly afterward they moved to Cass County, Ill., and entered a tract of government land three miles east of Shiloh, where both spent the remainder of their lives.

Charles Caldwell went to the neighborhood district schools in boyhood and continued to make his home with his father and mother until the time of his marriage, December 10, 1860. On this date he took for his wife Catherine Heaton, who was born October 18, 1844, in Manchester, England, a daughter of John and Mary Jane (Fullerton) Heaton. John Heaton was born at Wiggin, England, January 1, 1810, and was a soldier in the British army. The mother of Mrs. Caldwell was born in the Tower of London, England, a daughter of Gen. Joseph and Martha (Glenn) Fullerton. He was a general in the British army and was given a farm and pension for life in Canada. In 1850 the Heaton family located on a farm ten miles east of Beardstown, Ill., moving later to the town of Virginia, where the father passed away June 22, 1900, the mother having preceded him to the grave November 30, 1896. Their children were as follows: Noble, of Alberta, Canada; Edward, James, Mary J. (Mrs. Ben Williams), all deceased; William, of Spangle, Wash.; Charles, who died in Washington in 1913; Alice (Mrs. Ed. Savage); Susan (Mrs. Reuben Lancaster), of Virginia, Ill.; Martha (Mrs. R. H. Payne), of Kansas City, Mo.; Thomas, of Jacksonville, Ill.; and Catherine.

Charles Caldwell, after receiving training in the country schools, was reared under Catholic influences and adhered to that faith, while his wife became a member of the Presbyterian church. In political matters, Mr. Caldwell acted with the Democratic party, although not a seeker for public office. He was an upright and industrious man, a prosperous farmer, and a worthy and much respected member of the community. His useful life came to an end October 25, 1878. After her husband's decease, Mrs. Caldwell remained on the home farm and personally superintended it for twenty-five years. At the end of that period she moved to Cass Siding, Ill., and in 1902 purchased the property in Virginia, Ill., where she has since resided.

Mr. Caldwell and his wife had the following children: Patrick H., deceased; John, who lives in Cass County, Ill.; Emma C. (Mrs. Duncan Reed), of Bluff Springs, Ill.; Mary Jane (Mrs. James Mead), of Virginia, Ill.; Elizabeth (Mrs. Homer Coleman), of Sangamon Bottom, Cass County, Ill.; Catherine (Mrs. John Hurzburger), of Cass County; and Charles E., who is on the home farm. Mrs. Caldwell is a lady of high character and most estimable qualities, and commands the respect of a wide circle of acquaintance. She is a member of the W. C. T. U., of which body she has officiated as county president for a number of years. She belongs to the Eastern Star, of which fraternal body at Virginia she was elected warden in 1910.

CAMPBELL, Edwin.—The farmers of Cass County are, as a class, men of intelligence, whose interests are not confined entirely to their agricultural duties, and many have become usefully active in promoting local and county affairs. One of the solid and substantial men, whose name is a well known one in this locality, is Edwin Campbell, of Virginia. He was born two miles west of Virginia, March 9, 1863, a son of William and Dorothy (Sudbeink) Campbell, natives of Ireland and of Cass County, Ill., respectively. When William Campbell was about eighteen years old, he came from Ireland to Illinois, and located in Cass County, where he found employment as a farmer. When he married he began farming for himself on rented

land, but his good management and industry soon enabled him to purchase forty acres, the property upon which his son, Edwin, was born. This was a prairie farm, but he soon developed it, and kept on adding to his acreage until he owned 1,200 acres. An excellent business man, he would have died one of the wealthiest in his county, had not his sympathies led him to endorse notes for others. His death occurred in 1896, his wife having passed away in 1872. Their children were: Henry, who is deceased; Alfred, who resides in Cass County; Emma, who died in September, 1913, was the wife of W. B. Dunaway of Denver, Colo., and Edwin. For some years William Campbell served Cass County as a commissioner.

Growing up upon his father's farm, Edwin Campbell attended the schools of his district, and resided at home until his marriage. This occurred on March 10, 1888, when he was united with Mary E. Cosner, a native of Cass County, Ill., a daughter of J. T. and Emily Cosner. Three children have been born of this marriage: Lee Eda and Carlos, both of whom are at home, and one who died in infancy.

After his marriage, Mr. Campbell continued to assist his father, until the latter's death, and operated 800 acres of land, being one of the largest stock raisers in the county, handling horses, cattle and hogs. His first farm contained 104½ acres, to which he added until he owned 770 acres, all in Cass County, and now owns 610 acres. In 1913 he bought a handsome modern residence at Virginia, and is now living there. For some time Mr. Campbell has been a member of Virginia Lodge No. 544, A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a Democrat. A man of unusual business ability, capable in many directions, he has turned his attention to work for which he felt best fitted, and his success has been more than ordinary.

CARLS, A. B.—Among the progressive and energetic business men of the younger generation, who are contributing to the industrial and commercial prestige of the thriving towns and villages of Cass County, A. B. Carls, of Virginia, is worthy of more than passing mention. Still a young man, with his best years before him, he has accomplished what would seem to many men sufficient achievement after a lifetime of endeavor, and as a member of the leading firm of Hofstetter-Carls Lumber Company, is interested in one of Virginia's most successful business enterprises. Mr. Carls was born at Bluff Springs, Cass County, Ill., March 26, 1882, and is a son of John F. and Mary (Blohm) Carls. His father died March 12, 1910, aged seventy years, one month and eight days, while the mother passed away December 12, 1908, aged fifty-five years, eleven months and twenty-eight days. Mr. Carls is one of seven sons: Louis H., George F., William M., John H., A. B., Charles A., and Robert R., who died January 18, 1913, at the age of fifteen years, ten months and twenty-nine days, and was buried in the Beardstown city cemetery.

After attending the public schools of Bluff Springs, Mr. Carls learned the trade of carpenter, and succeeding this was for ten years engaged in a successful building and contracting business. In this way he became interested in the lumber business, and on March 1, 1912, in company with W. C. and Mary Hofstetter, he organized the Hofstetter-Carls Lumber Company, an incorporated concern, with $10,000 capital, and W. C. Hofstetter was elected president and A. B. Carls secretary and treasurer, and these two, with Mary Hofstetter, form the board of directors. The yards of this concern are located at the station of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Virginia, and in addition to carrying a full line of lumber, building materials and supplies, the company buys grain of all kinds and owns and operates a large elevator. Mr. Carls is known as a business man of more than ordinary ability, alert in action and with foresight which allows him to readily recognize opportunities. He has risen in the business world through the medium of his own efforts, and is justly accounted one of the stirring factors in the commercial life of his adopted place. He takes some interest in fraternal affairs, being a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, at Bluff Springs, but for the greater part concentrates his attention upon his business interests.

Mr. Carls was married October 1, 1903, to Miss Velma P. Wright, who was born January 4, 1884, a daughter of Alonzo and Elizabeth Wright, natives of Cass County. Their one child died in infancy.

CARLS, George F., postmaster and merchant of Bluff Springs, is one of the substantial men of Cass County whose public-spirit and progressive ideas have been rewarded by his appointment to public office. He was born in Cass County, January 24, 1874, a son of John F. and Mary C. (Blohm) Carls, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Cass County, Ill., where she was born in 1850. The paternal grandfather, also John F. Carls, was born in Hanover, Germany, and in coming to the United States with his family, lost his wife on the way, from cholera. He made his way to Beardstown with his three children and there found employment as a carpenter, where he was subsequently killed in an accident through a timber slipping from his fellow workmen and crushing him.

George F. Carls attended the country schools of his district and for two years was a student at the Wesleyan Normal school, Bloomington, Ill. He learned the carpenter trade and worked at it about ten years, and then established his store at Bluff Springs, which he has conducted ever since, enlarging his mercantile operations as his trade has justified. For about five years he has been postmaster, and is recognized as one of the leading men of the place. He is a Democrat, and has served as a school director for four years. For some years he has belonged to Bluff Springs Camp No. 1489, M. W. A. The Methodist church of Bluff Springs holds his membership and has his active support.

On August 4, 1896, Mr. Carls was married in Cass County, to Emma L. Jones, who was born in the county, January 15, 1878, a daughter of Louis A. and Rosa (Dale) Jones, natives of Illinois. Mr. Jones was agent for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Bluff Springs for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Carls have three children: George Richard, Rosemary, and Frank Maro, all of whom were born in Cass County. Mr. Carls owns his store building and residence at Bluff Springs. He is a very companionable man, and his personal popularity is attested by the fact that although a Democrat, he was appointed to the office of postmaster by a Republican president. In addition to his other duties, Mr. Carls performs those of a notary public.

CARLS, George H.—Perhaps no man of Cass County is better or more favorably known among agriculturists than George H. Carls of township 18, range 11, who was born on his present farm, November 28, 1874, a son of Louis William and Caroline (Musch) Carls, both natives of Cass County. The grandparents were George H. and Elnora (Dedring) Carls, natives of Germany; and John and Albadina (Lippert) Musch. Mr. Musch was born in Germany and Mrs. Musch on the Atlantic Ocean during the voyage of her parents to the United States, where they became farming people. George H. Carls and family came from Germany to the United States during the winter of 1844-5, in a sailing vessel to New Orleans, and thence to Beardstown, Ill., near where George H. found employment as a farmer. The paternal grandfather of George H. Carls bought the homestead in Cass County, Ill., eighty acres situated on the bluff, 100 acres of valuable farming land, and fifty-five acres on a sand ridge, which latter tract is now used for trucking purposes. In 1912 forty acres of black soil bottom land were added to the homestead. After their marriage Louis William and Caroline Carls settled on the farm in township 18, range 11, which they had bought in conjunction with their parents. There Louis William Carls died in January, 1903. The mother of George H. Carls survives, making her home at Beardstown with some of her children.

George H. Carls attended the public and German schools of Beardstown, and lived with his parents until twenty-two years old. He then rented the home place for a few years, and when his father died he inherited and bought all the 266 acres of the homestead, and here raises cattle and hogs and carries on general farming.

On April 13, 1899, Mr. Carls was married to Minnie Schewe, born in the Sangamon valley, township 18, range 11, March 13, 1880, a daughter of William and Ellen (Schewe) Schewe, natives of Germany, who came to the United States and were married at St. Louis, following which they settled in Cass County, Ill. William Schewe died April 13, 1907, but his widow is living and makes her home in the Sangamon valley. Mr. and Mrs. Carls have two children: Elmer W., who was born February 7, 1900; and Selma Ellen, who was born January 9, 1903. Mrs. Carls attended the district and German schools of her neighborhood. The St. John's Lutheran church of Beardstown holds the family membership. In politics he is a Democrat, and since 1911 has been a school director.

CARLS, Gustav A.—Although a man's standing in the world is not always measured by his possessions, for his true worth is evidenced by the regard in which he is held by his associates, yet large ownership of property indicates stability and judged by such facts, Gustav A. Carls is one of the leading men of Cass County. He is now conducting a farm of 400 acres of valuable land in township 18, range 11, sections 29, 30, 31, and owns an additional 100 acres which he rents to others. He was born in Cass County, August 10, 1876, a son of Louis W. and Caroline (Musch) Carls, the former born in Cass County, December 12, 1847, and the latter in the same county, October 14, 1852. The father was a farmer and stockraiser of Cass County. A history of the Carls family will be found in this work.

Gustav A. Carls attended the country schools, and has always been a farmer, learning the details of his life work from his boyhood. He is a strong Democrat in politics and has served as a school director for the past eleven years. The Sixth Street Lutheran church of Beardstown finds in him a faithful member, and a useful one as well, as he served as a member of the building committee when the new church was erected.

On January 31, 1900, Mr. Carls was married in Cass County, to Ida F. Brockschmidt, born in this county, December 23, 1880, a daughter of Christian and Louisa (Schewe) Brockschmidt, the former born in Washington County, Ill., in 1856, and the latter in Germany in 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Carls have had the following children: Edward L. C., Frederick R., H. Gustav, Liddie L. C., Delia W. H., and Norman G. W., all of whom were born in Cass County. Mr. Carls is a man of a very sociable nature, one who has many friends. He is noted for his industrious habits, which together with his thrift accounts in a large measure for his present prosperity.

CARLS, Herman H.—Farming and stock raising are very profitable occupations as some of the most reliable men of Cass County are proving to their entire satisfaction, and one of them thus engaged is Herman H. Carls, one of several brothers who are numbered among the successful agriculturists of this region. He was born in Cass County, August 13, 1883, a son of Louis W. and Caroline (Musch) Carls, the former born December 12, 1847, and the latter October 14, 1852, both being natives of Cass County. The father became a farmer and stockraiser of the county as will be seen from a history of the Carls family in this work.

After attending the district schools and working on his father's farm, Herman H. Carls became the owner of 120 acres of land in township 18, range 11, sections 31 and 32, which he

calls Fairview Farm. Politically he is a Democrat, but has held no offices. The Sixth Street Lutheran church of Beardstown is his religious home, and has in him a generous member.

On April 24, 1907, Mr. Carls married Alma M. Davidsmeyer, born in Cass County November 21, 1887, a daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Strubey) Davidsmeyer, both natives of Germany and farming people. Mr. and Mrs. Carls have three children, namely: Dorothy C. E., born January 10, 1908; Edna M. J., born October 6, 1906; and Clarence F. G., born June, 1911. Like other members of his family, Mr. Carls is a sociable, good-natured young man, one who has always worked hard and deserves the success which has come to him.

CARLS, Herman H.—Quite a number of well known citizens of Virginia, Cass County, Ill., are men who have been prosperous farmers in the vicinity until a comparatively recent period, but have abandoned active pursuits and retired to private life, to enjoy in quietude the fruits of years of industry and thrift. Not the least worthy among these is the subject of this personal narrative, Herman H. Carls. Mr. Carls was born near Arenzville, Cass County, Ill., October 19, 1861, and is a son of John Henry and Maria (Yost) Carls, who were natives of Hanover, Germany. The parents emigrated to the United States in commemoration of their wedding, and on arriving in Illinois, located in Cass County and bought a farm. On this they lived the remainder of their lives, the mother passing away in 1896, and the father in 1909. Ten children were born to them, namely: Elizabeth (Mrs. Charles Myers), deceased; Mary (Mrs. Talkemeyer), of Cass County; William Henry, who died in infancy; Lena (Mrs. Gus Arnold), of Beardstown; Anna (Mrs. William Musch), of Cass County; Matilda (Mrs. William Jockish), who is deceased; and Herman, George and Carrie.

Herman Carls was born on the home farm, and in boyhood attended the district schools. He remained on the homestead until his marriage, March 12, 1884, to Kate Musch, a daughter of John and Margaret (Schaaf) Musch. The parents of Mrs. Carls were natives of Wurttemberg, Germany, whence they emigrated to Illinois at an early period. Settling in Cass County they applied themselves to farming, but later retired from active life and died some years afterwards in the city of Virginia.

After his marriage Herman Carls cultivated one of his father's farms for seven years, when he purchased 175 acres two miles south of Virginia, which he named Maple avenue, and on which he carried on general farming until 1902, when he withdrew from agricultural pursuits. He established his home at Virginia, where he has since continued to live, and has the respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends. In political activities Mr. Carls is a staunch Republican, although never a seeker after office. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he has officiated as a deacon since 1904.

CARLS, Lewis William, who was once an important factor in the agricultural life of Cass County, a heavy landowner there, and also a potent influence in politics, lent his support only to those measures calculated to be of benefit to his fellow creatures, and in dying left many warm, personal friends behind him. Mr. Carls was born in the vicinity of Beardstown, Ill., December 12, 1847, a son of George H. and Elenora (Daydrick) Carls, natives of Hanover, Germany, where the father was born in 1818. They came to the United States at an early day, locating at Beardstown, Ill., and lived on a farm in its vicinity for eighteen years. They then bought a farm near Bluff Springs, and still later moved south of that property, where they both passed away.

Lewis William Carls attended the district schools and also the German school at Beardstown, and not only resided with his parents until his marriage, but for twelve years thereafter. He then purchased 260 acres of land, five miles southeast of Beardstown, and moved his family to it, and there they lived until his death, January 29, 1903. He kept on adding to his holdings until the homestead became a large one, and through his efforts it was increased in value very considerably. Prominent in local politics, he served a number of years as a school director.

On October 17, 1872, Mr. Carls was married to Lena Musch, born near Arenzville, Ill., a daughter of John and Albidena (Lippert) Musch, the former a native of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, while the latter was born on the Atlantic Ocean. Her birth occurred during the voyage of her parents to the United States, on the ship Albi, for which she was given her rather unusual name. John Musch came to Cass County in 1849, and his parents followed him some five years later. The Lippert family located in Cass County in 1833. Mrs. Carls was educated in the district schools, and at St. John's Lutheran school, the family belonging to St. John's Lutheran Church. After the death of Mr. Carls, Mrs. Carls, with the assistance of her sons, conducted the farm until August, 1908, when she moved to Beardstown, and is now residing in a modern frame house she had built for her, and some of her children are with her at present. Mr. and Mrs. Carls became the parents of the following children: George H., who is at Bluff Springs; Gustav A., who is of Cass County; Robert G., who is of Beardstown; William Morris, who is of Cass County; Herman H., who is of Cass County; Louis W., who is on the home farm; Julius O., who is of Cass County; J. Albert, who is of Beardstown; Paul B., A. Elenora and Edythe A., all of whom are with their mother; and John M., who died in infancy.

CARLS, Louis William, a prosperous farmer and stockraiser of Cass County, is justly numbered among the leading agriculturists of this part of the state. He was born in Cass County December 26, 1886, a son of Louis W. and Caroline (Musch) Carls, the former born December 12, 1847, and the latter October 14, 1852, and both



Harry Phillips



Dr. J. F. Snyder

November 18, 1840, a son of Lawrence and Marian (Cribis) Clifford. Lawrence Clifford was born in the town of Caher, Tipperary County, Ireland, and came to the United States at an early age, locating at Nauvoo, Ill., and afterwards moving to Cass County. His wife was the widow of John Cunningham, who, with her first husband, came from Edinboro, Scotland, her birthplace, to Cass County, Ill., in 1836. They located at Beardstown, but soon afterwards moved to a farm near Virginia, where Mr. Cunningham died. Lawrence Clifford and Mrs. Cunningham were married in 1838, and settled in Virginia, where she died in 1858. Mr. Clifford became an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, and died in 1872. Two children were the issue of their union, James H. and William.

James H. Clifford grew to manhood in Virginia, Ill. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company K of the Thirty-third Regiment, Illinois, Volunteer Infantry, in the Trans-Mississippi Department, under General Grant. He took part in all the battles of the regiment. In August, September and October, 1861, his command was in southeastern Missouri, and participated in the battle of Fredericktown. In March, 1862, the regiment started for Little Rock, Ark., landing at Helena, and taking part in several skirmishes. It remained there from August until September 15, 1862, and then went to Ironton, Mo., and spent the following winter in search of General Price's army. In the spring of 1863 the Thirty-third went to Memphis and then to Vicksburg, being the first regiment to cross to the east side of the Mississippi, and engaged in the battle of Magnolia Hills, or Port Gibson, May 1, 1863. This was followed by a series of engagements. After capturing Jackson, Miss., the regiment returned and took part in the battles of Champion's Hill and Black River, on the way back to Vicksburg, and then participated in the siege of that stronghold, which occupied forty-five days, and resulted in the surrender of Pemberton's army and the fall of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863. The Thirty-third gave a splendid account of itself there.

The Thirty-third then went to New Orleans to aid General Banks in his expedition up the Red River, which failed, however, on account of low water to accomplish its object. Next it was sent to southern Texas, on the Gulf of Mexico, where it captured Fort Esparanza, near Matagorda Island, and remained there for seven months and then was returned to New Orleans. During much of this time the regiment was engaged in guard duty and scouting. Afterwards the Thirty-third participated in the battles resulting in capturing Mobile, Ala. When Mr. Clifford's term of enlistment expired, he, with others of the regiment, embarked at New Orleans for New York, having charge of about 400 Confederate prisoners en route. The prisoners were unloaded at Governor's Island, to be sent to Elmira, N. Y.; while the Union soldiers were carried by train to Springfield, Ill., and Mr. Clifford was there honorably discharged, October 11, 1864.

Mr. Clifford immediately returned to Virginia and learned the carpenter's trade, and began contracting and building, and is still engaged in that business. On December 23, 1865, at Ashland, Ill., he was united in marriage with Eliza Jane Kikendall, a daughter of William B. D. and Elizabeth M. (Jobe) Kikendall. Mrs. Clifford was born in Jefferson County, Ky., March 31, 1844. Her father's birth took place May 28, 1818, and her mother's on February 15, the same year. From Kentucky, the Kikendall family went to Iowa, and in 1858 moved to Illinois and located in Virginia, where the father became a carpenter and builder. He died there December 15, 1897, the mother having passed away December 23, 1895. James H. and Eliza J. Clifford are the parents of three children: Nellie M., a teacher in the State Normal College of Georgia; William H., manager of the Palestine Gas Company, Texas; and Edward, formerly a lawyer practicing in Virginia, Ill., and now an investment banker of Chicago, whose home is in Evanston, Ill. They are also the grandparents of four children, three boys and one girl, who are all attending school.

James H. Clifford belongs to Downing Post No. 321 of Virginia, Grand Army of the Republic, and the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is one of the oldest members. Politically, he is a strong Republican, having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln for president. While he has never sought nor held office, he has always taken part in the councils of his party and has served as a delegate to various conventions. Mrs. Clifford's father first voted for William H. Harrison (of Tippecanoe fame) for president; and when Benjamin Harrison, the grandson, ran for the same office in 1888, the Kikendall and Clifford families cast twelve votes for him. The sons, William H. and Edward, inherited Republican sentiments from their parents, and since they became of age, have taken great interest in politics, made numerous speeches, served as delegates, etc. Edward Clifford was a delegate from Chicago at the famous "Deadlock" Republican State Convention held in Springfield in 1904. He is a strong supporter and personal friend of Hon. Lawrence Y. Sherman, United States Senator from Illinois, and has fought with him in many of his campaigns.

The Clifford family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Miss Nellie is active in Sunday school work and Mrs. Clifford has long been a worker in the societies of the church; also she is one of the stanchest members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Mr. Clifford has always taken an active and energetic part in the history of his times. He and Mrs. Clifford are still living on the same street in Virginia where they started housekeeping, but in their second home, where they continue to enjoy the confidence and esteem of their fellow townsmen.

COIL, Albert Stout, one of the dominant factors in politics in Cass County, and a dealer in realty on an extensive scale, is one of the representative men who have established and maintained

the prestige of Beardstown. He was born in Lincoln County, Mo., October 24, 1860, a son of Jacob Y. and Victoria O. (Young) Coil, natives of Kentucky and Ohio. The grandfather went to Ohio in young manhood and died when his son, Jacob Y., was a child. The grandmother married (second) a man named Hall, in Missouri. Jacob Y. Coil and his wife were married in Ohio, and then went down the Ohio River, and up the Mississippi to Lincoln County, Mo., settling on a farm, where he died in 1872. In the following year the mother and her six children moved to Adrian County, Mo., and located on a farm.

In 1877 Albert S. Coil came to Pike County, Ill., and worked first in a livery stable and drove a stage for a year, after which he was employed in a flour mill. In 1880 he reached Virginia, Ill., and started as an apprentice to the printing trade. On February 16, 1888, he moved to Beardstown and bought the Enterprise printing establishment, but in December, 1894, sold a half interest to Charles A. Schoffer, they remaining together until January, 1914. They issued a weekly paper until 1893, when it was made a tri-weekly, and in March, 1901, a morning daily, which they published until January 3, 1914. On that date the Enterprise and Illinoisan-Star offices were consolidated. The morning Enterprise and weekly Star were discontinued but the Evening Star and weekly Enterprise were continued. Mr. Coil in the meantime had been dealing in real estate, and his business along this line assumed such proportions that in 1914 he found it expedient to withdraw from the newspaper, and devote all of his attention to real estate. He has been very active in politics. In 1893 he was appointed postmaster of Beardstown, by President Cleveland, and acted as such until 1897. In 1899 he was elected county assessor and treasurer, and held these offices for four years. Since 1903 he has served as a member of the board of education, and has always been an active worker in Democratic circles. He has been a delegate to nearly all of the Cass County Democratic conventions, as well as others for many years. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, Court of Honor, and Independent Order of Foresters.

In August, 1880, Mr. Coil was married to Dora Brandom, a native of Indianapolis, Ind., who died in 1894. Their children were: Mable, who is Mrs. C. F. Noeker of Virginia, Ill.; Grace, who is Mrs. Richard R. Jokisch, of Bluff Springs, Ill.; Arthur L., who is of Beardstown; Harry; Bessie, who is Mrs. George Colvin, Mr. Colvin being a grocer of Beardstown; Ruth, who died at the age of seventeen years; and Verna, who is Mrs. Martin B. Sands of Springfield, Ill. Mr. Coil married (second) Mable C. Eggleston of Lake Charles, La., born in New York state, a daughter of Col. J. W. Eggleston, who now resides at Shreveport, La. Their two children are: Alberta, aged six years, and Dorothy, aged five years.

CONDIT, Thomas Knowles, cashier of the First National Bank of Beardstown, Ill., is widely known over the state, not only for his financial knowledge and conservatism, but because of the efficiency with which he has fulfilled the duties of responsible public positions to which he has been appointed at different times. He was born at Winchester, Scott County, Ill., February 11, 1856, a son of William and Margaret (Knowles) Condit. William Condit was born at Orange, N. J., and married Margaret Knowles, who was born at Seaford, Del. She died March 30, 1872, having come to Scott County with her mother and sisters after her father, Dr. Knowles, died in Delaware. The children of William Condit and wife were: Henry F., of Kansas City, Mo.; Thomas K.; Charles H., a banker of Winchester, Ill.; William F., in the clothing business at Astoria, Ill.; Joseph Y., who died in 1907; Carrie, who is Mrs. H. C. Worcester, of Roodhouse, Ill.; and Margaret, who is Mrs. W. C. Kechler, of Winchester.

The Condit family is an old one in the United States, the first of the name being found at Newark, N. J., in 1678, and Moses Condit, five generations removed from Thomas Knowles Condit, was an officer in the Revolutionary war. Grandfather William Condit was born at Orange, N. J., in 1800, where he became a hat manufacturer. In 1844 his plant was burned, throwing his employes out of work. In 1845 his son William and a relative, Henry Stryker, came to Jacksonville, Ill., and shortly afterward to Winchester, where he was engaged in hat manufacturing from 1848 until 1872, when he added gents' furnishing goods and continued in the business until 1893, when he retired and died in 1896. He was appointed postmaster of Winchester early in 1862 and served twelve years; was collector of internal revenue from 1860 until 1872, when the office was consolidated with the Quincy district, and in 1894 was elected treasurer of Scott County.

Thomas Knowles Condit attended school until fourteen years of age, when he began clerking in a dry goods store at Winchester and received $50 for his first six months' work. He continued clerical work until 1873, when he went to Chicago and took a course of three months in bookkeeping at the Bryant and Stratton Business college and was credited with completing the course in a shorter time than had any other pupil of that old institution. Mr. Condit then accepted a position in the distributing room of the Chicago Times, taking charge of the mailing list of the country subscribers. Some weeks later he was employed as bookkeeper by the First National Bank of Winchester, working as such from April 1, 1874, until November 4, 1874, when he came to Beardstown. Here he was made cashier of the private bank of Skillings, Carter & Arenz, which position he held until April, 1877, when the bank was reorganized as the Peoples State Bank, Mr. Condit being one of the organizers, and became cashier and continued as such until February 17, 1887, when this bank was merged into the First National

Bank with a capital of $50,000. The officers were: J. H. Harris, president; J. H. Hagener, vice president; Thomas K. Condit, cashier. In 1893 the capital stock was increased to $80,000; in 1903 to $100,000 and it is working with this capital, with a surplus of $125,000 and undivided profits of $10,000. There have been some changes in the offices of president and vice president, in 1890 Mr. Shultz becoming vice president and president in 1900, with A. E. Schmoedt vice president. Mr. Condit has continued cashier, while his eldest son, Floyd M. Condit, who has been associated with the bank since 1899, is assistant cashier. The latter married Edith Smith, in 1902, and they have three children: Harriet, Mary Louise and Edith Elizabeth.

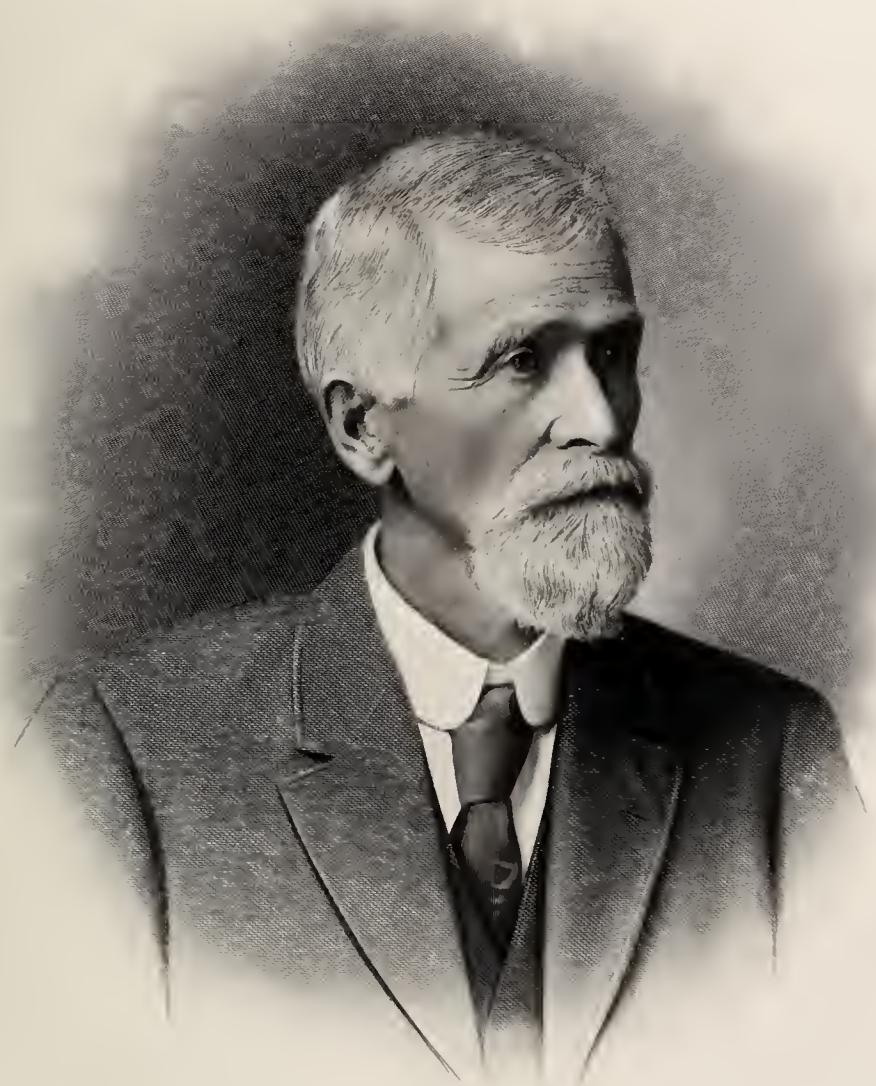
On February 22, 1877, Thomas K. Condit was married to Harriet S. Dutch, who was born at Beardstown and died April 13, 1902. Her parents were John R. and Alice (Thompson) Dutch, the former born at Cape Girardeau, Mo., and the latter in England. To this marriage the following children were born: Floyd M., born February 24, 1878; J. Sidney, born December 31, 1881; and Richard L., born February 17, 1886, died May 19, 1888. The second son, J. Sidney, has been connected with the Chicago law firm of Winston, Payne, Strawn & Shaw, since 1905, and is a gradnate of the Beardstown High school, the Illinois University at Urbana and the Harvard Law school. On October 15, 1903, Thomas K. Condit was married to Ethel Ayers, at Pasadena, Cal., who was born at Rushville, Ill., a daughter of Dr. Mortimer and Dora (Hill) Ayers. The father of Mrs. Condit was a practicing physician at Pasadena for seven years previous to his death, in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Condit have one son, Thomas Ayers, born August 6, 1905.

In politics Mr. Condit is a Republican. He served as a member of the city council for three years and during that time was instrumental in securing the building of the first wagon bridge, and has been alert, helpful and public-spirited concerning many enterprises which have brought credit to the city. He organized the Mutual Loan and Savings Association, and has been its secretary since 1893. He was connected with the Beardstown Electric Light and Power Company and it was largely through his efforts that the company received its franchise from the city in 1903, and he was a stockholder until 1913, when the plant was sold to the Public Service Company. He served as deputy internal revenue collector of Beardstown at the request of Hon. John A. Logan. Mr. Condit's prominence secured his appointment as a member of the World's Fair Commission, and he also served during the exposition at St. Louis, and by Governor Deneen was appointed a member of the Internal Improvement Commission of the State of Illinois and made the trip on the steamer, Illinois, with the other members of that body. At St. Louis they were joined by President Taft and party and they all went on to New Orleans where the Deep Waterway convention was held, the deliberations of this representative body being matters of history. Mr. Condit was interested in the erection of the present home of the First National Bank, which was completed January 1, 1913. It is a building of modern construction and exemplifies every new design in bank building, having a complete vault system and safety deposit boxes, absolutely fire and burglar proof, not excelled in the state. Mr. Condit is affiliated fraternally with the Elks and the Knights of Pythias. He early united with the Methodist Episcopal church and from 1867 until 1875 held his membership at Winchester, when he transferred to Beardstown. For two years he served as superintendent of the Sunday school and has been president of the board of trustees since 1904 and gave assistance to Reverend Waldron in the raising of $15,000 to build the church in 1889.

CONOVER, George.—The personal history of George Conover, of Virginia, is a very interesting and instructive one for it proves that few things are impossible to the man who utilizes his natural ability and is not afraid to stand firm in his convictions. Mr. Conover comes of a very old family, one with historic records, and was born one-half mile west of old Princeton, Cass County, September 11, 1846, a son of Levi and Phoebe Ann (Rosenberger) Conover.

The first of the family to come to America was Wolfort Gerretse Van Convenhoven, as the name was then spelled, he being a native of Holland. Arriving at New York City, or New Amsterdam as it was then called, in 1630, the pioneer ancestor lived there and managed the affairs of a fellow countryman of large means. The estate upon which he worked is now in the very heart of the metropolis of the United States. Gerrett Wolfertse Van Convenhoven, son of Wolfort Gerretse, born in Holland in 1610, came to America with his father in 1630. He was one of the eight men representing the people who, November 3, 1643, memorialized the States General for relief in consequence of their forlorn and defenseless condition, as per page 139 of Vol. 1 of documents of Colonial History of New York. William Gerretse Van Convenhoven, a grandson of Wolfort Gerretse, sold his property in New York in 1709 and moved to Monmouth County, New Jersey. John Williamse, a great-grandson, was born April 6, 1681, and Dominicus, a great-great-grandson, was born in New Jersey about 1724. He was killed by lightning. His five sons were with Gen. Washington in the Revolutionary war, and four of them were granted leave to attend their father's funeral, and thus missed being in the battle of Monmouth, which occurred June 28, 1778. The name of Van Convenhoven was trimmed down to Connover previous to 1800 and to Conover by 1830.

Levi, son of Dominicus, a great-great-great-grandson of Wolfert Gerretse, being one of the five brothers mentioned above, was born Octo-



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ber 10, 1757, in or near Monmouth, New Jersey. He moved to Kentucky about 1790, settled near Lexington, but afterward moved to Columbia, Adair County, Ky. He entered land there, 400 acres three miles east of Columbia, February 3, 1896, land entry No. 401. His near relatives entered the same day 3,200 acres more. Levi Conover, the father of George Conover, was a son of the Levi named above, and was born near Columbia, Ky., January 14, 1808. Levi Conover, father of George Conover, came to Cass County from Columbia, Adair County, Ky., and his brother Peter came prior to him, taking up government land two miles south of Princeton, Cass Co., Ill. It was through the representations of this brother, that Levi Conover left his Kentucky home for one in Illinois, the trip being made according to pioneer methods in a covered wagon.

This Levi Conover was twice married, his first wife being Elizabeth Petefish, a sister of the founder of the Petefish, Skiles & Co., bank at Virginia, Ill. When he started from Kentucky he owned a horse and colt, but these were stolen from him while on the way, so upon his arrival here he went to work splitting rails for fifty cents per hundred. By his first marriage he had one child, but both it and the mother died at its birth. He then went to Iowa and bought 500 acres of land and with a partner built a log house and there he suffered all the privations incident to pioneering at that time and in that locality. His second wife, Phoebe Ann Rosenberger, the mother of George Conover, bore him five children, namely: Mary Jane, who died at the age of eighteen years; Martha Ann, who became Mrs. Oswald Skiles and the mother of Lee Skiles; Matilda Ellen, who became Mrs. William Epler, lives at Lake Charles, La.; George and Charles Wesley. The latter owns the old home place, but lives at Ashland, Ill. Peter Conover, brother of Levi Conover, entered the land on which George Conover was born. Levi Conover bought it in 1841.

Brought up upon a farm, George Conover's first educational advantages were obtained in the district schools, later the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., and the Bryant & Stratton Business College of Chicago. On coming back to the farm he began raising stock and so continued to work until he was thirty years old. At that time, deciding upon a wider career, he moved to Virginia, Ill., and became a partner of the Petefish, Skiles & Co., private bankers, in March, 1876, and was at once installed as bookkeeper. For eight years he served the bank faithfully in that capacity, and then bought the interest of Mr. Oliver, who managed the bank. Mr. Conover then became manager and so continued until the private bank was incorporated in 1903, he being one of the incorporators, and was elected its president. After serving two years, Mr. Conover was succeeded by his brother-in-law, Mr. Skiles, who, with his associates, was owner of three banks in the county. In 1881 they started the Skiles, Rearick & Company private bank at Ashland, and in 1882 bought the Chandler bank in Chandlerville, and organized a private bank under the title of Petefish, Skiles & Mertz. Later, or in 1904, they took out a charter under the title of the State Bank of Chandlerville and Mr. Conover has been president of this bank since its organization. Mr. Conover is also interested in the State Bank at Buffalo, Ill.; the Calcasieu Trust & Savings Bank at Lake Charles, La., and the private bank of Conover & Co., at Kilbourne, Ill. Mr. Conover and family are members of the Presbyterian church.

On February 23, 1871, Mr. Conover was married to Virginia Bone, a daughter of William and Farinda P. (Osborn) Bone. Mrs. Conover was born in the Rock Creek neighborhood in Menard County, Ill. Four children have been born of this marriage, namely: William Bone, who is of New Orleans, La.; Ernest Bone, who is of Springfield; George Bone, who is cashier of the bank at Buffalo, Ill.; and Virginia Louise, who is at home.

George Conover's father gave him a half section of land two miles southeast of Virginia, that at that time was nothing more than a frog pond, but after doing a great deal of hard work, he has brought it into a fine state of cultivation, and it is now very valuable. Mr. Conover still owns this property, and is naturally proud of what he has developed from what was once considered worthless land.

COOKE, Hon. John Joseph.—Cass County has her full share of able lawyers, and among these are some who have made such effective use of their talents and opportunities as to elevate themselves to positions of prominence, and through the honorable distinction achieved by long and earnest effort, they reflect a high degree of credit upon the community in which they live. Conspicuous among these and worthy of signal mention is Judge John Joseph Cooke, whose voice and presence are familiar to the bar and general public.

John Joseph Cooke was born at Aurora, Ill., June 4, 1874. When three years old he was brought by his parents to Beardstown where he later attended the public schools, and still later was graduated from the high school, in the class of 1891. In 1892 he began attending the University of Notre Dame, from the law department of which he was graduated in 1894. In 1895 he was admitted to the bar, having been employed since June, 1894, in a law office in Chicago, where he continued until December, 1897. At this time he established himself in the practice of law in Beardstown, and has become one of the foremost men in his profession. Judge Cooke is a son of Michael and Catherine Cooke, his father being a native of Queens County, Ireland, who came to America in 1853, and was married in Aurora. He and his wife had nine children, four of whom are still living, John Joseph being the second in order of birth. The father was a foreman in the railroad shops in Beardstown from 1877 until January, 1911, when he passed away, and was laid to rest in

the Beardstown cemetery. He was a man of intelligence, skill and energy and had many friends. The mother of Judge Cooke, a native of Queenstown, Ireland, and a much respected lady, died in Beardstown November 1, 1914.

Politically Judge Cooke is a Democrat. In 1899 he was elected city attorney of Beardstown, being chosen a member of the Illinois legislature in 1904, and serving one term in the Forty-fourth General Assembly. When the Beardstown City Court was established in June, 1911, John Joseph Cooke was elected the first judge of the newly created tribunal, an office which he still fills. In April, 1913, a County Bar Association was organized in Cass County, of which Judge Cooke was chosen the first president, which office he is holding at the present time.

CRAMER, Engelbert, who is a landowner with extensive holdings, not only in Cass County but elsewhere, is ranked among the substantial men of this locality. He was born at Beardstown, Ill., November 7, 1856, a son of Jacob H. and Charlotta (Trompe) Cramer, natives of Hanover, and of Prussia, Germany. They met in the United States at St. Louis, Mo., where they married. The father was a cabinet-maker and contractor, and in 1854, he came to Beardstown where he bought property and followed his trade in that city until his death about 1871.

Engelbert Cramer attended the public schools of Beardstown, and remained with his parents until fourteen years old, when he began working on farms and so continued until twenty-one years old. At that time he rented land, but within eight years bought his first sixty acres, to which he has added until he has 260 acres in Cass County. He also owns 160 acres in Kingfisher County, Okla., which he rents, but he operates his Cass County property himself, doing general farming and stock raising.

In 1877 he married Paulina M. Hackman, who was born in Cass County, Ill., and died November 26, 1910. She was a daughter of John H. and Louisa (Jockisch) Hackman, he born in Hanover, Germany, and she in Cass County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Cramer had the following children: Louisa, who married William M. Carls, of Cass County; Jacob H., who is of Virginia, Ill.; J. W., who is in the United States navy, being on the U. S. S. New York; Engelbert, who is at home; Henry, who died in infancy; and Ada, who married Raymond Rhineberger, is deceased. Mr. Cramer served as school trustee and director, and as road commissioner, and was the first constable of Bluff Springs Precinct. He belongs to and is a charter member of Bluff Springs Lodge No. 1489, the Modern Woodmen of America, and was one of its organizers. He has always taken much interest in the order and not only has held the offices of adviser, banker and manager, but he was a member of the building committee when the new hall was erected.

CRAMER, Jacob H.—Every line of business gives openings for intelligent men if they are willing to devote to it care and attention. Cass County is an agricultural community, and Virginia is the natural shipping point for a wide territory, so that through the business men of this city pass many of the commodities raised in the outlying regions. Jacob H. Cramer has for years conducted a large business handling horses and mules, generally keeping about twenty head. In connection with this line he buys and sells, and is one of the heavy dealers of this section. Mr. Cramer also handles farm machinery, wagons and buggies, and conducts a first class livery, owning twelve head of horses, and is prepared to do either light or heavy hauling.

The birth of Mr. Cramer occurred at Bluff Springs, Ill., August 31, 1880, he being a son of Englebert and Pauline (Hackman) Cramer. While growing up on his father's farm he attended the local schools and those of Girard, Ill. For the three years following the completion of his studies Mr. Cramer was engaged in farming, and then coming to Virginia he bought the livery business owned by Bergen & Crum, and has continued to conduct it ever since, branching out as above stated.

On November 8, 1906, Mr. Cramer was married at Virginia to Margaret Winklehake, a daughter of Henry and Minnie (Jokisch) Winklehake. Mr. and Mrs. Cramer have had four children, namely: Henry, Hazel, Pauline and Nina Louise. Mr. Cramer is a member of the Red Men, having joined that order after locating at Virginia.

CRAWFORD, James (deceased).—Among the best known and most prosperous of the early settlers of western Illinois, whose labors contributed largely to the productiveness and attractiveness of Cass County, were a number, now passed away, whose lives were begun on foreign shores. Conspicuous in this number was James Crawford, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, where his birth took place September 28, 1833. Whatever educational training he had was obtained in his home neighborhood in boyhood, and in 1853 he set out in an old fashioned sailing vessel for America. Arriving in Illinois, he located in the vicinity of Beardstown, Cass County, where he took up 300 acres of government land. On this, in the course of time, by industry and thrift, Mr. Crawford became an extensive stockraiser and feeder, and a heavy livestock shipper. He converted this tract, which lay along the Illinois River, into a very valuable farm. During his residence there his parents joined him, and after they came he disposed of his farm and bought another one near Virginia, to which he continually added until he had acquired 540 acres, on which he spent the remainder of his busy and successful life, passing away September 14, 1903.

The marriage of James Crawford occurred August 20, 1868, to Jane Elliott, a native of Virginia, Ill., where her birth took place June

15, 1841. Jane Elliott was a daughter of Thomas and Frances (Chittick) Elliott, her father being a native of County Antrim, Ireland, but her grandparents, David and Mary (Robinson) Elliott, were natives of Scotland, the maternal grandmother, Nancy Burgiss, being a native of England. Frances Chittick was first married in County Tyrone, Ireland, to John Lindsay, by whom she had one child, Ann. Mr. Lindsay died in Virginia, Ill., where he is buried. Thomas Elliott first married Jennie Kirkpatrick, by whom he had three children, John, Nancy and David, all deceased.

After the death of James Crawford his widow remained on the home farm until 1910, when she purchased the residence in Virginia, Ill., which she has since occupied. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford had the following children: Fannie, who lives at home, William, of New London, Iowa; James, of Virginia, Ill.; Henry C., who died in infancy; Margaret, who is engaged in educational work and lives with her mother; Thomas E., who died in infancy, and Floy, who is also engaged in educational work, dwells under the home roof. The family is greatly respected wherever known. All are members of the Presbyterian church.

Politically, James Crawford supported the principles of the Democratic party, although not active in partisan campaigns. Throughout his long and useful career he was considered the very ideal of honor, and his memory is revered by all who knew him.

CRAWFORD, James.—A representative of the progressive and enterprising agricultural element of Cass County, James Crawford has met with well deserved success in his ventures, and has brought himself to a position of prominence through consecutive effort and steadfast application to the vocation which he has made his life work. Still in the prime of life, with his best years before him, he has achieved a success which many men would consider acceptable after a lifetime of labor, and while his private interests have been large, he has still found the time and the inclination to contribnte to the advancement of his community. Mr. Crawford was born on a farm two miles south of Virginia, Ill., October 29, 1872, and is a son of James and Jane (Elliott) Crawford, the former a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and the latter of Cass County, Ill.

James Crawford was given good educational advantages in his youth, attending the public schools and the Virginia High school, and was reared in the atmosphere of the farm, which decided him in his choice of a career. He remained under the parental roof until his marriage, September 11, 1894, to Miss Emma Funk, of Monroe Precinct, Cass County, daughter of Conrad and Fredericka (Stoner) Funk, she being a native of Texas. After his marriage Mr. Crawford moved to his 120-acre farm located one mile south of Virginia, and there resided until 1895, when he erected a fine residence at Grand Villa, and in addition built barns and structures for the shelter of his equipment, machinery and stock. He now has sixty acres in his home farm, thirty-five acres in an adjoining tract and 125 acres one mile west of Cass Siding, and cultivates all of this land, raising corn, wheat and oats, and being a large breeder of cattle and blooded horses. His ventures have proved very successful, and he is justly accounted one of the substantial men of his community. A Democrat in politics, he has served capably as road commissioner for three years, and has at all times endeavored to advance the best interests of his place of residence. Mrs. Crawford is a member of the Presbyterian church.

Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Crawford: Reta, who resides at home; and Gean, who died at the age of two and one-half years.

CRUM, David Marion.—Among the prominent residents of township 17, range 10, in Cass County, Ill., no one is more deserving of creditable mention than the well known farmer whose name constitutes the caption of the following biographical narrative. He and his estimable family have been long known among the people of this vicinity, and its head is looked upon as one of the prime movers in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. The title to the land which he cultivates has been for more than two generations in the Crum name and the present owner has worthily upheld the traditions of an honorable ancestry.

David Marion Crum was born in Arenzville Precinct, December 25, 1853, and is a son of Christian and Mary (Robinson) Crum, natives of the state of Indiana. The grandfather on the paternal side, also of Indiana, was Mathias Crum. Christian Crum and his wife located, when young, in Cass County, where their marriage took place, after which they settled in Arenzville Precinct, where Christian Crum owned a large tract of land which he had entered from the government, and he also had considerable land in Virginia Precinct, and raised and fed stock on a large scale. Christian Crum died in 1880, his widow passing away in March, 1881. The children of Christian and Mary Crum were as follows: John W., who died in 1886; James Robert, of Bedford, Iowa; William W., who died December 22, 1912; Mary Ellen (Mrs. Samuel W. Dunwiddie), of Literberry, Morgan County, Ill., Martha Ann, (Mrs. Stephen D. Epler), of Pleasant Plains, Sangamon County, Ill.; Cyrus N., of St. Louis, Mo., David M., of Cass County; and George A., of Oklahoma.

David M. Crum lived with his parents until his marriage, on November 24, 1875, to Henrietta B. Payne, who was born in Harrisonville, Mo., a daughter of William B. and Elizabeth (Alendar) Payne, who were natives of Lexington, Kentucky. After he was married, David Crum moved to township 17, range 10, Cass County, where he owns a farm of 140 acres, which was then but partly improved. He now has a fine farm. All the present buildings on this farm

were erected by him, including a frame house of eight rooms, a barn, and four other buildings used for tools and grain. He has carried on general farming and stockraising since putting the place in first class order.

The primary education of Mr. Crum was obtained in the public schools, and later he attended the State Normal School at Normal, Ill., and Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Crum have had the following children namely: Bessey Lee (Mrs. D. A. Piatt), of Birmingham, Ala.; Vida V., at home; Mabel B. (Mrs. John Boden), of St. Paul, Minn.; and David Christian, who died in infancy.

Politically Mr. Crum is a Democrat and served from 1894 to 1898 as deputy assessor, and since 1906 has served continuously in the same office. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he is affiliated with Lodge No. 544, A. F. and A. M., of Virginia, Ill.

CRUM, Eben R.—In the promoting of the agricultural prosperity of Cass County, Ill., and especially of that portion of the county in which the town of Virginia is located, various members of the well known Crum family are entitled to a good share of the credit. Some of them were early settlers in this section of the state, and are noted as having used their agricultural opportunities to the best advantage and of bringing about the most satisfactory results in farming enterprises that intelligence, energy and thrift are capable of producing. Their names are identified with extensive operations in land cultivation and stockraising and are held in honored remembrance as among those public benefactors who have given the county its present enviable status.

Of the younger generation of this family Eben Ross Crum, who has always lived on the farm which was his birthplace, is not the least worthy of creditable mention. This farm lies in township 17, range 10 W., Cass County, Ill., where his life began October 9, 1879. He is a son of Thomas J. and Sarah A. (Henderson) Crum, natives of Morgan County, Ill., the mother being born in the vicinity of Arcadia. The paternal grandparents were James and Christina (Ream) Crum, and the maternal, who were natives of Ohio, were William and Lucinda (Turner) Henderson, all of whom were early settlers of western Illinois. Thomas J. Crum was the owner of a farm of 520 acres in Cass County, which was his home until 1908. In that year, he moved to Virginia, Ill., where he passed away June 30, 1911. His widow is still living in Virginia. The living children are named: Charles E., of McKenzie, N. Dak.; Theresa (Mrs. Edward Summers), of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Oscar, of Virginia, Ill.; William, of Ohio; Ollie (Mrs. Frank Strong), of Spokane, Wash.; Mary (Mrs. William DeLapp), of Pasadena, Cal.; Obed, of Britton, Okla.; Eben Ross, of Cass County, and Thomas, of Cedaredge, Colo.

Eben Ross Crum attended the district schools of his neighborhood in his youth and was afterwards a pupil in the Jacksonville High school. On reaching maturity he applied himself to the cultivation of 158 acres of the homestead, which he had bought and on this has continued to carry on general farming successfully. In addition to this he is engaged in raising cattle, horses and hogs.

On July 29, 1903, Mr. Crum was united in marriage with Arizona Downs, who was born in Schuyler County, Ill., April 12, 1881, and is a daughter of John and Elvira (Lawler) Downs, natives of Illinois, who are now living with Mr. and Mrs. Crum. Mr. and Mrs. Crum have the following children, viz.: Marguerite Esther, Eben Jefferson, and Susan Abigail. In politics he acts with the Democratic party, and has rendered efficient public service as a school director. He is looked upon as one of the best farmers and one of the most substantial and reliable members of the community.

CRUM, Marquis L., president of the Petefish-Skiles Bank, of Virginia, and formerly one of the heaviest landowners of Cass County, is one of the substantial men of his community. He was born in the south central part of Cass County, Ill., January 16, 1851, a son of James and Christina (Ream) Crum, the former of whom came to Cass County in the spring of 1830, from Clark County, Ind. Here he took up 160 acres of government land and made it his home until his death in 1899, when aged ninety-three years. His wife died in 1878, aged sixty-four years, and both are interred in the family lot in Greenwood cemetery at Union church. Their family consisted of twelve children: David M., Thomas J., and James F., all of whom are deceased; Sarah M., who is Mrs. J. F. Wilson of Tallula, Ill.; Mary E., who is deceased, married W. Howard Thompson; John M., who lives at Newton, Kans.; William M., who is deceased; Amanda C., who is of Oklahoma, married W. Henry Thomson; George W., who lives in Cass County; Marquis L.; Charles P., who was killed in a railroad accident; and Oscar M., who is deceased. The father of these children was a member of the Methodist church. His homestead of 160 acres is now owned by his grandson, Arthur E., son of Marquis L. Crum.

Marquis L. Crum was educated in the schools of Cass County, and at the Wesleyan University. Brought up on the farm, he learned farming, and for many years followed an agricultural life. At one time he owned 1,600 acres of land, and still has farming interests, although he has divided much of his property among his children. On September 25, 1913, he was elected president of the Petefish-Skiles Bank, of Virginia, and still holds that office, his name giving the institution added stability.

On March 30, 1875, Mr. Crum married Frances Stubblefield, who was born September 17, 1853, a daughter of John and Ellisannah (Houser) Stubblefield, and four children were born to them, as follows: Edith, who married



Frances Scarlett Price —

were erected by Mr. [illegible] a frame house of eight rooms, a barn and [illegible] buildings used for tools and stock. He was actively engaged in general farming and stock-raising, [illegible] getting to the place in first class condition.

The primary education of [illegible] was obtained in the public schools, and later he attended the State Normal School at Normal, Ill., and Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Crum have had the following children born to them: Ethel Lee (Mrs. H. A. Hartley of Chicago), Ralph V., of Jacksonville, Hallie B. (Mrs. Herbert [illegible] of St. Paul, Minn.), and Daniel Carlton, who died in infancy.

[illegible] is a Democrat and [illegible] has served as deputy assessor, and since 1907 has served continuously in the same office. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he is affiliated with Lodge No. 544, A. F. and A. M., of Virginia, Ill.

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Of the younger generation of this family Eben Ross Crum, who has always lived on the farm where he was born, is not the least worthy of honorable mention. This farm lies in Township 17 North, Range 10 West, Cass County, Ill., where his life began October 9, 1879. He is a son of Thomas J. and Sarah A. (Henderson) Crum, natives of Morgan County, Ill., the mother being born in the vicinity of Arcadia. The paternal grandparents were James and Christina (Reed) Crum, and the maternal, who were natives of Ohio, were William and Lucinda (Turner) Henderson, all of whom were early settlers of western Illinois. Thomas J. Crum was the owner of a farm of [illegible] acres in Cass County, which was [illegible] until 1905. In that year, he moved to Virginia, [illegible] where he passed away June 30, 1911. [illegible] still living in Virginia. The children [illegible] record, Charles E., of Mckendree, Oklahoma; Mrs. Edward Simmons, of Virginia, Ill.; Oscar, of Virginia, Ill.; Mrs. Frank [illegible] of Ohio, Ohio; Mrs. Frank [illegible] Lake County, Ind.; Mrs. William [illegible] Chandler, Okla., and, of Eben Ross Crum and Thomas [illegible] Cass County.

Eben Ross Crum attended the district schools of his neighborhood in his youth and was after[illegible] a pupil in the Jacksonville High School. On reaching maturity he applied himself to the cultivation of [illegible] acres of the homestead, which he had bought and on this has continued to carry on general farming successfully. In addition to this he is engaged in raising cattle, horses and hogs.

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Marquis L. Crum was educated in the schools of Cass County and at the Western University at Quincy, Ill. He learned farming [illegible] years followed an agricultural career. He now owns 1,000 acres of land, including interests although [illegible] of his property among [illegible] September 25, 1913, he was elected [illegible] Peotish-Skiles Bank of Virginia, and [illegible] that office, his name [illegible] added stability.

[illegible], 1875, Mr. Crum married [illegible] Reed, who was born September [illegible], daughter of John and Ellis[illegible] Morehead, and four children [illegible], as follows: Edith, who [illegible]



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Jennie Marshall Price -

Lee Skiles, and they have two children, Helen and Marquis O.; Arthur E., who married Nina G. Swope, and they have two children, Mary F. and Josephine; Oral, who was accidentally killed by a fall at San Francisco, Cal., on June 23, 1912, when thirty years old; and Rena, who married Harry W. Sinclair, and they have one son, Marquis C. While he takes a public-spirited interest in local affairs, Mr. Crum has never entered the political arena.

CRUM, Reuel G.—When William Marcellus and Mary E. (Graff) Crum, the parents of Reuel G. Crum, settled soon after their marriage, on the place where the latter now lives, the land was almost a wilderness. Of the 800 acres which was theirs, between 200 and 300 were covered with timber. All the buildings were put up by the father and all the other improvements were made by him, and he cleared all the timber land except fifty acres. He was one of the largest raisers of cattle, horses and hogs in Cass County, and also owned and operated 300 acres of land in Morgan County. He was a native of Cass County and his wife of Morgan County. William Marcellus Crum died April 1, 1905. The paternal grandparents were James and Christina (Ream) Crum, the former a native of Indiana, and the latter reared in Cass County, on this farm. David Ream was the maternal grandfather. After the death of William M. Crum, his widow lived on the home farm until February, 1910, when she married again.

Reuel G. Crum was born on section 17, range 10, w., Cass County, Ill., September 30, 1878, and in early youth received his educational training in the neighborhood schools, afterwards attending Jacksonville Academy and Illinois College. After his father's death, he conducted half of the home farm for two years, or until the estate was divided, when he was awarded 250 acres, although he continued to operate his mother's land. The following were the other children: Alma C. (Mrs. Dr. C. M. Hubbard), deceased; Jessie F. (Mrs. George Phillips), of Spokane, Wash.; Amanda, deceased; Elton M., of Virginia, Ill.; Luke, who married Anna Freitag; and Mary M. (Mrs. Howard Stribling), of Spokane, Wash. Reuel Crum is engaged in raising registered Percheron horses, mules, and also black Angus cattle. He feeds cattle extensively and breeds Poland-China hogs. He owns 350 acres of land at Little Indian, in the same township, and conducts operations altogether on 1150 acres. In Morgan County he also rents and operates 320 acres.

On February 1, 1911, Reuel G. Crum was married to Lulu Woods, born June 11, 1885, in Fancy Creek Township, Sangamon County, Ill., a daughter of Charles M. and Martha J. (Carpenter) Woods, the mother born in Sangamon County, and the father in Albemarle County, Va. The grandparents of Mrs. Crum are Sampson Lockhart and M. H. Durrette Woods, natives of Virginia; and Samuel and Martha Jane (Short) Carpenter, born in Cass County, Ill. Mrs. Crum attended the high school in Springfield, Ill., and the Betty Stuart Institute. Mr. Crum is a member of the Christian church while his wife is a Methodist. He has served as school director and is interested in general education. Fraternally he is affiliated with the A. F. and A. M., of Virginia, Ill., and the B. P. O. E. No. 682 of Jacksonville.

Reuel G. Crum is one of the most extensive and prosperous farmers in western Illinois, and one of the most intelligent and honorable members of the community in which he lives.

CRUM, Thomas Jefferson (deceased).—The late Thomas Jefferson Crum, who, for many years was engaged in farming and stockraising in Cass County, was a man who exemplified in every step of his career the fact that honest effort, sturdy industry and well-directed management conduce to ultimate success. He worked long and faithfully, but his rewards were commensurate with his labors, and he was successful not only in a material way, but in winning the respect and esteem of those among whom he lived so long. A native of Cass County, Mr. Crum was born July 9, 1835, and was a son of James and Christina (Ream) Crum. His father was born September 22, 1806, in Clark County, Ind., a son of Matthias and Margaret (Spangler) Crum, natives of Montgomery County, Va. James Crum came to Cass County in 1830 and settled near Arenzville, being followed by his parents during the next year, and there they died. James Crum was married January 31, 1833, to Christina Ream, who died May 1, 1878. His second marriage was to Mrs. Eliza Beam, whose husband had met a soldier's death during the Civil war.

Thomas Jefferson Crum was reared on the home farm, and during the short winter terms secured some educational training in subscription schools. He was married March 11, 1857, to Sarah A. Henderson, who was born in Morgan County, Ill., May 7, 1840, daughter of William and Lucinda (Turner) Henderson, natives of Ohio. They were early settlers of Morgan County, Ill., where they were married, and where Mrs. Henderson died. Mr. Henderson subsequently married Mrs. Elizabeth Morris, and moved to Henry County, Ill., and there passed away in 1874.

After his marriage Mr. Crum moved to a farm near his old homestead, and there continued to reside for many years, constantly adding to his holdings until he had accumulated 550 acres of land, a large part of which was in timber. He carried on general farming, in which he was very successful, and was also known as one of the leading raisers of cattle, hogs, horses and sheep in this part of the county. Mr. Crum retired from the activities of life in November, 1910, at which time he moved to Virginia, and there resided with his wife and son Oscar, until his death, June 30, 1911. His life record is one that is worthy of a place among the representative men of this part of the state, and he is still remembered as one of

the helpful, useful and honorable men of Cass County. He held large interests in the Centennial Bank, of Virginia, of which he served as vice president, and had other extensive holdings. His religious faith was that of the Protestant Methodist church, and his political belief that of the Democratic party. Mr. Crum for a number of years was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was valued by his fellow members.

Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Crum, namely: Charles E., a resident of North Dakota; Theresa M., who married E. D. Summers, of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Oscar M., who resides with his mother at Virginia; William M., of Hilton, Ohio; Ollie E., who married Frank Strong, of Spokane, Wash.; Mary L., who married William Delapp, of Pasadena, Cal.; Henry O., of Britton, Okla.; Eben R., residing on the home farm; Cecil and Cecelia, twins, who died on the day of their birth; and Thomas Austin, a resident of Cedaredge, Colo.

CRUM, William W. (deceased), for many years was a highly respected man and successful agriculturist of Cass County. He was born in this county, January 1, 1839, a son of Christian and Mary (Robertson) Crum, and died on his farm in township 17, range 9, on December 23, 1912, and was buried in Yatesville cemetery in Morgan County. Christian Crum was born in Kentucky and left there on account of the outrages of the Indians, and went to Indiana, but in 1831 came to Morgan County, Ill. He was there married to Mary Robertson, who was a native of Indiana. After marriage they settled a few miles distant from Virginia, Ill., it being Mr. Crum's intention to engage in chopping wood in the timber, during the winter, but his plans were frustrated as that was the winter made notable by the "big snow," so much snow falling that the people could do little but remain at home. On the original homestead Christian Crum and his wife passed the rest of their lives and reared a family of eight children.

William W. Crum was the third born in his parents' family and lived at home until his marriage, in the meanwhile, during the winter months, attending the Union district school. Following marriage he settled on a farm in township 17, range 9, having 314 acres in Cass County, and 108 acres in Morgan County, the farm buildings standing on the latter tract, which, when he located there, was covered with timber. At present it is all cleared and under cultivation, except fifteen acres. Mr. Crum made improvements and thereby increased the value of his land many fold. He devoted himself to general farming and stock raising, each year turning out many horses, cattle and hogs. He conducted his affairs along practical, common sense lines and was successful.

On February 5, 1862, Mr. Crum was married by Rev. John Dale of Virginia, to Miss Anna Mary Clark, who was born in Cass County, Ill., April 4, 1843, and is a daughter of John and Martha (Bane) Clark, and a granddaughter of Lawrence Clark. The grandfather came to Cass County about 1834 and was one of the early surveyors. His brother-in-law, William Clark, settled in Cass County early in 1820. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Crum: Laura and Frank, both of whom are deceased; Lillian, now Mrs. William Cleary, of Morgan County, has three children, Anna, Crum and Lillian; Edward and Mary, both of whom are deceased; Martha, now Mrs. George E. Coudy, of Granite City, Ill., has had three children, Martha Ann, living, Elizabeth, deceased, and George W.; Bertha, who resides at home; Edwin and Edgar, twins, both of whom are deceased; Edna, now Mrs. George Wittlinger, of Menard County, Ill., had one son, Michael C., deceased; Edith and Alma, both of whom reside at home; and John, who is deceased. Mr. Crum was a Democrat in politics. Since his death Mrs. Crum has managed the farm industries and has proved to be a capable business woman. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

CUNNINGHAM, Archibald.—Among the intelligent and industrious farmers and stockraisers who have made Cass County favorably and widely known for the enterprise and good judgment manifested in the conduct of its agricultural operations, is Archibald Cunningham, whose parents were among the early settlers of this part of the country. They also were farming people, having come from Edinburgh, Scotland, when very young, and started out to improve their fortunes in western Illinois. They were Thomas and Euphemia (Wilkie) Cunningham, who, emigrating with their respective families as children, located in Cass County, grew up to mature age, were married, and settled down to farm life along the edge of a timber tract, at the northwest corner of township 17, range 9. This they subsequently sold, and moving to township 18, range 9, bought an eighty-acre farm, where the father died December 1, 1900, and the mother passed away in the city of Virginia, where she had made her home, January 20, 1914. The children of Thomas and Euphemia Cunningham were as follows: Ellen (Mrs. Alexander Newman), of Cass County; Jennie (Mrs. Link Mathew), also of Cass County; Effie (Mrs. Albert Bell), of Clarence, Shelby County, Mo.; and Archibald.

Archibald Cunningham, the youngest, was born in township 17, range 9, Cass County, Ill., August 9, 1873. He received his early mental training in the Mt. Pleasant district school, and made his home with his parents until his marriage. On June 5, 1895, he was wedded to Myrtle A. Robinson, born in Cass County, a daughter of Aaron C. and Sarah Ellen (Davis) Robinson, the father a native of Ohio, and the mother, of Cass County. Mrs. Cunningham's grandparents were James Allen and Martha Ann Davis.

After his marriage, Mr. Cunningham rented land in this vicinity until 1908, when he bought 120 acres which he has thoroughly improved,

and on which he has erected all necessary buildings. Mr. Cunningham resided on this place until 1900, and then rented eighty acres from his father-in-law, adjoining his own property. He is engaged in general farming, besides raising cattle, horses and hogs, operating both places. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham have three children: Earl Thomas, born March 21, 1896; Oliver C., born October 20, 1898; and Viola Lee, born August 18, 1900. In politics Mr. Cunningham is a Republican, and has served as road commissioner. He is affiliated with the Court of Honor, at Virginia; and carries insurance in the Bankers' Life, of Des Moines, Iowa, and the John Hancock Company.

CUNNINGHAM, George W.—When George W. Cunningham took up his residence as a retired citizen of Virginia, Ill., that flourishing village secured the services of a man who had succeeded in the affairs of life and was ready and willing to bend his best energies to the development of its progress along the lines of education, morality and good citizenship. His substantial reputation, gained through a life of clean living and honest dealing with his fellowmen, has since been strengthened, and his name is worthy of a place high on the roll of Cass County's representative citizens. Mr. Cunningham was born in Cass County, January 5, 1843, his parents being George and Maria (Lindsay) Cunningham.

The Cunningham family, as the name would indicate, originated in Scotland, where George Cunningham was born January 17, 1803. He emigrated to America in 1835, coming first to Canada and later making his way to Cass County, Ill., by way of the great lakes, and purchased eighty acres of partly improved land, in addition to which he entered 160 acres of government land. He was here married, May 23, 1838, to Maria Lindsay, who was born in Kentucky, January 31, 1816, and who had come to this county with her father, Allen Q. Lindsay, who entered land on the Cass and Morgan county line as early as 1819. Mr. Cunningham died in 1869, his widow surviving until 1891. They were the parents of the following children: Mary and Allen, who are deceased; George W.; Nancy J., deceased; Charles and Ellen, twins, the former deceased, and the latter the widow of Richard Dirreen, of Jacksonville, Ill.; Leftridge, a resident of Phelps County, Mo.; Kennethina and Elizabeth, who are deceased; and Emma, the widow of Fred Neolch, residing on the parents' old homestead place.

The educational training of George W. Cunningham was secured in what was known as the Mt. Pleasant school, in his native locality, and as a youth he applied himself to the routine work of the home farm. Like other patriotic youths of his township, he was eager to serve his country during the Civil war, and August 15, 1862, enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which organization he served in campaigns in Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, at the siege of Vicksburg, the battles of Jackson, Miss., and Nashville, Tenn., and numerous skirmishes. After a brave and faithful service, he received his honorable discharge, August 3, 1865, at Vicksburg, and returned to his home, being engaged in farming with his father until the time of his marriage, which took place October 21, 1868, to Miss Ellen M. McKinzie, who was born in Virginia, October 21, 1843, daughter of James and Ann (Flemming) McKinzie, natives of Scotland, who had emigrated to America and subsequently came to Cass County, Ill., from the Old Dominion state. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham: Annie, born July 16, 1869, and now the wife of B. K. Simmons, a blacksmith of Virginia; and Mary, born December 17, 1880, who died December 14, 1884.

Following his marriage, Mr. Cunningham purchased a tract of 120 acres of land adjoining the homestead of his parents, and fifteen years later bought forty acres of the old home place, but eventually disposed of his holdings and removed to Virginia, Ill. There he was engaged in a successful teaming business for some years, but in 1906 retired from active pursuits, and since that time has been living in his attractive home at Virginia. Mr. Cunningham has contributed to the upbuilding of his adopted city by the erection of two fine residences in the heart of the town. He is known as a good and public-spirited citizen, and those who have had dealings with him have had every reason to place the utmost confidence in him. Mrs. Cunningham is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Cunningham is a Republican in his political views, and is popular with his comrades in Post No. 321, Grand Army of the Republic. He is an active Mason, and is prominent in the Odd Fellow fraternity, in which he has passed through the chairs and was the first instructor in Cass County, and has been treasurer since 1898.

CUNNINGHAM, Henry, owner of as valuable and finely developed a farm as can be found in the state, is one of the representative agriculturalists of Cass County. He was born in this county, July 24, 1857, a son of James and Sarah Elizabeth (Hopkins) Cunningham, natives of Leith, Scotland, and of Indiana. In 1836 the father landed at New York City, to which he had been brought by his father, John Cunningham. The latter came to Cass County, Ill., but died soon afterwards, and James Cunningham was bound out to S. A. Lee. He remained with this man until of age, and then was married, October 1, 1856. In 1860 he went into a saw and grist mill business, carrying it on until 1866, when he bought 100 acres of partly broken prairie land, in township 17, range 9. He kept on adding to his holdings until he had 280 acres, which he conducted until his death, which occurred February 7, 1906, when he was aged eighty years. The children of James Cunningham and wife were two in number: Henry and Dollie E., the latter of whom is Mrs. F. C. Fox

of Cass County. The mother, who was born December 19, 1824, lives with her son, Henry.

Henry Cunningham attended school in the Sugar Grove district, and the public schools of Virginia for two years. He has always lived with his mother and has never married. Since his father's death, he has owned the entire farm, buying his sister's share, and has added 160 acres to the origiual acreage. On this property he does grain farming, and has brought his land np to a very high standard in every respect. In politics he is a Republican.

DAVIS, Francis Marion.—The most successful Cass County agricultnralists recognize the fact that in order to get the best resnlts from their farms, they must expend time and money on them, and here may be fonnd properties as fine as in any part of the state. One of the men who has developed his farm until it is credited with being a model one, is Francis Marion Davis, of Hickory Precinct. He was born near Shiloh Church, Cass County, Ill., June 15, 1860, a son of Elijah and Elizabeth (Shoopman) Davis, natives of Kentucky and Tennessee. The maternal grandfather, William Shoopman, came to Cass County at an early date. After their marriage, Elijah and Elizabeth Davis settled on a Cass Connty farm where their eleven children were born, Francis Marion being the eighth in order of birth.

Until he was eleven years old, Francis Marion Davis lived at home working for his father, then went to Morgan County, where he worked for others and attended the district schools as opportunity offered. For four years after his marriage, Mr. Davis rented land in Missouri, and then returning to Cass County, Ill., he rented the Henry Campbell farm, where he lived for eighteen years, conducting that and his own ten acres adjoining. In the spring of 1910, he bought 120 acres on sections 19 and 30, Hickory Precinct, where he has developed one of the finest farms in the county. While it was partly improved when he bought it, he has added many things, has built corn cribs, put in fences, and bought excellent machinery. This land is devoted to grain farming, and his success proves that it pays to pursue the methods he had adopted.

On August 22, 1881, Mr. Davis was married to Jane Davis, born in Cass County, a daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Buck) Davis, natives of Kentucky and Tennessee, who became Cass County farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Davis became the parents of the following children: Walter L. and Willis F., both of whom are of Cass County; Estella Pearl, who is Mrs. Jacob Kruse, of Cass County; and Ethel E. and Richard E., who are at home. In politics Mr. Davis is a Democrat. He belongs to the Illinois Bankers Association, and to the Des Moines Bankers Association. A man of progressive ideas he has always kept abreast of the times, and his influence is widespread.

DAY, Harry Levi, M. D.—Numbered among the experienced physicians and snrgeons of Cass Connty is Dr. Harry Levi Day, of Virginia, who, althongh comparatively a newcomer to this city, having located here July 21, 1913, has already won recognition, built up an excellent practice, and has been shown especial honor and confidence by his professional brethren. He was born at Manchester, Delaware County, Iowa, December 7, 1872, a son of George Alve and Eliza C. (Hills) Day, the former of whom died in 1893, but the latter, now aged eighty-three years, still survives.

Harry Levi Day attended the public schools and took a Chantauqua course, before entering the University of Iowa, at Iowa City. Later, in 1899, he was graduated from the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, and then located at Lerna, Ill., where he began the practice of his profession, entering into a partnership with Dr. R. N. Leitch. This association was dissolved after six years on account of the increasing delicacy of his wife, with whom he then went to Arkansas and to other places in the hope of finding climate and conditions that would restore her to health.

Dr. Day was married to Etta A., a daughter of Dr. R. N. and Elizabeth (Hughes) Leitch, and they had three children, namely: Marian, Robert and Charles. Mrs. Day died March 31, 1913, having been born December 14, 1882, and is buried at Union, Mo. The mother of Dr. Day resides with him and the children receive her loving care.

Like all of the progressive men of his profession, Dr. Day is a member of the Cass Connty Medical Society, haviug recently been elected president of that organization; the Illinois State Medical Society, and the Central Illinois State Homeopathic Association. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Odd Fellows, and is medical examiner of the former.

DEFRATIES, Charles Edward (deceased).—All those whom death has claimed in Cass County have not been numbered among the old, for those still in the prime of life have been stricken, and their places left vacant. The late Charles Edward Defraties belonged to this class, for he was born February 28, 1876, and was just in the prime of life when called away. His father was Gregory Defraties. His own mother died in 1879, and his father married again and he lived at home until he was fifteen years old. At that time he began working for neighboring farmers and so continued until he was able to rent land, and cultivated it at varions places, until in 1906 when he bought 200 acres, from John R. Robinson, two and one-half miles south of Virginia. While this place had some improvements on it, he built new buildiugs and put in many conveniences. Always a farmer, he understood his work thoroughly, and was considered an excellent farmer and stockraiser. His death was accidental. While cutting down a tree, he had the misfortune to get canght



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM T. PRICE, VIRGINIA



COUNTRY HOME OF WILLIAM T. PRICE, VIRGINIA PRECINCT

under it when falling, and was killed November 28, 1913. His burial was in Walnut Grove Cemetery. His widow continues to operate the farm.

Mr. Defraties was twice married, first in 1909 to Anna Dirks, born at Newmanville, Ill., and they had two children: Uel and Eunice, both of whom are living with their stepmother. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Defraties married Anna Loeffler, born at Virginia, Ill., November 28, 1888, a daughter of Henry and Ida (Hardin) Loeffler, natives of Germany and of Cass County, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Defraties had two children: Leetta, who was born September 20, 1911; and Jessie, who was born March 18, 1913. Mr. Defraties belonged to the Cumberland Presbyterian church, but Mrs. Defraties is a Methodist. He was a Republican in politics and served as a school director. A man of industry, he had worked very hard all his life, and his death was deplored, coming as it did when he had just begun to enjoy the fruits of his labors.

DEGROOT, Jerry, a prosperous farmer and stock raiser, stands very well among the Cass County agriculturalists for he is a man of ability, experience and pleasant social qualities. He owns eighty acres of valuable land on section 29, township 18, range 8, which he has improved to a considerable extent. He was born in Menard County, Ill., January 31, 1868, a son of Joachim and Anna (Aden) DeGroot, natives of Germany. The father was a farmer and he and the mother came from Germany at an early day, locating first in Menard County, Ill., but later moving to Cass County, Ill., where both died.

Jerry DeGroot was educated in the country schools and brought up on his father's farm. Having devoted his life of hard work to agricultural pursuits, he understands this line of endeavor thoroughly, and naturally is an expert in it. On March 10, 1897, Mr. DeGroot was married in Cass County to Nellie Masten, born November 16, 1878, who died August 16, 1914. She was a daughter of James and Nancy S. (Combs) Masten. The Masten family history is given elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. DeGroot have had the following children: James, Anna, Joachim, Silas and Nancy Pauline, all of whom were born in Cass County. In politics Mr. DeGroot is a Republican, but has held no offices. He is not connected with any religious denomination.

DEICHMANN, George.—This well known farmer and old time resident of Cass County, Ill., is of German nativity, his birth having taken place in Hesse, Prussia, Germany, in November, 1849. His parents were Conrad and Mena (Miller) Deichmann, both of whom passed away in the Fatherland. In 1867 George Deichmann emigrated from the old country to America, and arriving at Beardstown, Ill., started to work on different farms by the month. In this occupation he has ever since continued, through industry, energy and economy building up for himself a competency on which to depend in advancing years, and a reputation for honesty, sobriety and upright dealing that have made him generally respected as a useful and valuable member of the community.

On May 8, 1872, Mr. Deichmann was united in marriage with Catherine Ulrich, who was born in Cass County, Ill., and after his marriage he acquired a farm of sixty acres of land lying northwest of Beardstown. Here he carried on general farming for sixteen years, at the end of which period he disposed of the property and rented land at Beardstown. Subsequently he moved and rented another piece of land which he farmed six years. On leaving this locality Mr Deichmann purchased 160 acres in township 18, range 11, which he used mainly for stock-raising. Fourteen years later he disposed of this and bought eighty acres in township 18, range 10. On the last tract he has cultivated fine crops of grain, having also built a new dwelling and all other buildings necessary to a well equipped farm. Besides general farming he is successfully engaged in raising cattle and hogs, but a large part of the land is rented out.

Mr. and Mrs. Deichmann have three children, namely: Elizabeth (Mrs. Louis Daur), of township 18, range 10, Cass County; Minnie (Mrs. Charles Schall), of the same township; and Louis, who is located in Virginia. The religious connection of Mr. Deichmann is with the Lutheran church. In politics he is an Independent Democrat.

DEVLIN, Frank C., who has proven during his operations as an agriculturalist that he understands his business and is worthy of consideration in many ways, was born at Philadelphia, Ill., July 9, 1884, a son of John and Mary Ann (Drain) Devlin, natives of County Antrim, Ireland. They came to the United States in 1849, settling at Virginia, Cass County, Ill., where John Devlin worked at farming for others until 1885, when he began renting land, and in 1904 he bought 160 acres of valuable land in township 17, range 9. He and his wife had the following family: Arthur, who is deceased; Margaret, who is Mrs. Mart Mahoney, of Cass County; John, who is of Cass County, married Mary Finn and they had two children, Alvenia and Margaret F., the latter of whom died in infancy; Frank C.; and Harry, Lee and William, who are with their parents.

Frank C. Devlin and his brother John have always worked together, and the latter was married November 25, 1908. Since that event the brothers have been conducting various farms in Cass County and at present they are operating 278 acres belonging to L. H. Skiles, of Virginia. On it they are raising Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, as well as grain.

Mr. Devlin obtained a fair common school education. He belongs to St. Augustine Catholic Church. At present he is assessor of township 17, range 9. John Devlin is a member of the

Bankers Life Association. Both are excellent farmers and very worthy young men.

DICK, Edward.—Among the intelligent and enterprising body of men who constitute the farming element of the population of Illinois, Cass County has its full share who deserve prominent mention, and not the least worthy of these is the subject of this sketch, who is a resident of Chandlerville. Edward Dick was born in Cass County, Ill., March 8, 1873, and is a son of John P. Dick, also a farmer by occupation. The maiden name of his mother, whose birthplace was in Menard County, Ill., was Elizabeth Peak. On the home farm John P. Dick had once a herd of elk, on one of which he was accustomed to ride about the land. One day he became angry at this animal, and in a burst of passion, killed it. Its horns he hung on the barn, and this incident gave to the entire place the name of "Elkhorn," by which it was afterwards known. In early youth Edward Dick attended the public school of his district, where he received a fair education, and then applied himself to the work of the farm. This consists of 1,905 acres of desirable land, and is located in section 34, township 19, range 9, in Cass County, where he carries on general farming and also devotes himself to the raising of stock. In addition to his acreage in Cass County, Mr. Dick has another farm of 200 acres in Illinois, situated in Adams County.

In 1895, in Cass County, Edward Dick was united in marriage with Mamie L. Elliott, a daughter of Hugh T. and Sarah Jane (Pullam) Elliott. They have had the following children: Virgil Edward, Dewey Gilbert, Fred Oswell, Carl Elliott, Harold T., Helen Inez, and Dorothy Lee, and one son died in infancy. All the children are still at home. This family is very fond of music. The father and mother are fine musicians and the elder children share in the talent of their parents, and furnish delightful musical entertainment for their neighbors and friends. Their home is made especially pleasant by a family orchestra, which is highly appreciated in their immediate neighborhood and elsewhere in the county.

In politics Mr. Dick is connected with the Democratic party, and for twelve years he has served in the capacity of school director of his district, giving general satisfaction. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, in which he is a member of Pecon Camp, No. 553. He is well known and much respected throughout Cass and Adams counties. He is a man of amiable disposition, good natured and affable in daily intercourse, and has many friends wherever his acquaintance extends.

DICK, William Franklin, one of the extensive farmers of Cass County, is conveniently located in township 18, range 11, on a farm that belonged to his father and on which he was born January 17, 1865, he being a son of James A. and Mary (Bowen) Dick. The father was born in Kentucky, and the mother in Ohio. They were married in Cass County, Ill., and lived for a few years in the eastern part of the county, but about 1844 sold their property and bought the present homestead of 360 acres, all in the Sangamon River bottoms, except 160 acres on the bluff. The mother died in 1896, aged seventy-six years, but the father lived until 1902, when aged seventy-nine years. Their children were: Ellen, born in 1847, who is Mrs. James Main, of Oskaloosa, Kans.; James Martin, born in 1855, who is of Melvin, Kans.; Mary Adeline, born in 1860, who is of Beardstown; William Franklin, and five who died when young. The father was a man of prominence in Cass County and he served as sheriff for two terms, one term prior to the birth of his youngest child, and one after. During his period of service the Armstrong trial took place, and the criminal was kept a prisoner in Sheriff Dick's house instead of in the jail. When William F. Dick was still a child, his parents moved to Jefferson County, Kans., where they spent three years, but returned to their old home.

William F. Dick attended the public schools of Cass County, and took a business course at Jacksonville, Ill. After his marriage in 1888, he leased the homestead for a year, and then built a house on the farm in which he lived until the death of his mother, when he and his wife moved into the old home. When his father died, in Beardstown, Mr. Dick bought out the other heirs, and is now the owner of the property he is conducting. He is a large feeder of cattle, and carries on general farming.

On September 5, 1888, Mr. Dick married Lena Smith, born in Schuyler County, Ill., October 26, 1869, a daughter of A. N. and Jeanette (Rice) Smith, natives of Schuyler County, Ill. Their children are: Lula Jeanette, who is Mrs. N. R. McLane, of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Leah E., who is Mrs. Edwin Smith of Beardstown, Ill., and has one daughter, Frances E., born January 27, 1913; Roy Alfred, who is at home; and one who died in infancy. Mr. Dick is a Democrat. He belongs to Beardstown Lodge No. 1007, B. P. O. E., and Bluff Springs Lodge M. W. A. No. 1492, and is popular in both organizations, as he is highly respected in his community.

DIETERICH, Hon. William H., one of the distinguished jurists and representative men of Cass County, has long been recognized as a leading factor in current events in this part of the state. He was born near Cooperstown, Brown County, Ill., March 31, 1876, and is a son of the late George H. and Anna K. (Berg) Dieterich, both natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. His parents came to the United States in 1857, locating on a farm in Cass County. With the outbreak of the Civil war, the father enlisted for service in the Union army and spent three years as a soldier, receiving a gunshot wound in the left shoulder at the battle of Vicksburg. With the close of the war the parents removed to Brown County, settling

on a farm near Cooperstown, where William H. Dieterich was born, remaining there until 1896 when he retired to Rushville, Ill. The father died August 2, 1905, the mother surviving until July 19, 1914, when she was called to rest. William H. is the youngest of a family of six children. He has one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Wagner, who resides in Cass County, and four brothers, namely: Charles H. of Rushville, Ill., Frederick S., John, and George A., who reside in Brown County, Ill.

William H. Dieterich received his preliminary education in the district schools of Brown County, and then entered the Normal school at Rushville. Following this he took a business course and then taught school in his native county and afterward had charge of the Normal department of the Rushville Normal and Business College, for one year. In the winter of 1898 he began the study of law with the law firm of Glass & Bottenburg, of Rushville, completing his course at the Northern Indiana Law School at Valparaiso. In 1901 he was admitted to the bar, and at once began practicing at Rushville. His ability as a trial lawyer was recognized and he had a place at the trial table of every important case tried in the local courts, and has participated in the trial of cases in almost every county in the military tract.

Judge Dieterich is affiliated with the Democratic party and has always taken an active interest in local and state politics, having acted as chairman of the county, central and senatorial committees, and has been honored with the positions of alderman of his resident ward in Rushville, city attorney of that city for two terms, treasurer of the Rushville Union schools for three terms, master-in-chancery for two terms and county judge one term. At present he is special inheritance tax attorney under the attorney general. During 1909-10, while he was county judge, he held court in the civil branch of the Municipal court of Chicago. After he left the bench he went to Chicago and practiced law, having charge of the trial work of the law firm of Eddy, Haley and Wetten. After a year, however, he moved to Beardstown, where he has located permanently for the practice of his profession and has built up a splendid practice.

In May, 1900, at Rushville, Ill., Judge Dieterich was united in marriage with Nora S. Runkle, a native of Schuyler County, being a daughter of Joseph and Carrie (Snyder) Runkle. Judge and Mrs. Dieterich have one daughter living, Ruth R., at present a member of the Junior class of the Beardstown High school, another daughter, Helen Louise, having died at the age of five years.

Judge Dieterich's rise has been steady and brilliant. From one office to another, he has speedily advanced and during all of his public service he has always kept the needs and rights of the people before him. Such a man as he is needed in the councils of the great, and further honors no doubt await him, for his abilities and preparation fit him for almost any duty connected with his profession that he might be called upon to perform.

DOWLER, Joanna Gertrude Wall, for many years one of the most popular educators of Cass County, and a lady of scholarly attainments and charming personality, was born in New York City, July 28, 1838, a daughter of David E. and Mary (Welsh) Wall, natives of Dublin, Ireland, who met in New York City after their arrival in this country, and there married. Mr. Wall was a farmer, and after he moved to Vermilion County, Ill., served that county as clerk. In the meanwhile, however, he had lived in Pennsylvania and Indiana, serving in the latter place as a railroad employe. During the winter of 1839-40 he settled in Vermilion County, and after purchasing a farm, lived upon it a short time, then moved to Danville, Ill., where he died in 1846. Following his demise, his widow and children went to Quincy, Ill., where the widow died about 1856.

Early recognizing the necessity of becoming self-supporting, Joanna Gertrude Wall, now Mrs. Dowler, learned the millinery trade at Quincy, and when she had sufficient money saved, took a college course at the Jacksonville College. When her money was exhausted, she resumed work at her trade, thus alternating until she had completed her studies with Prof. Bowick, who, in 1851, had come to Beardstown. Mrs. Dowler taught school under him, and for fifty-two years was a teacher, during the last two years devoting her attention to instruction in drawing. Feeling then that she had completed her work along educational lines, to the great regret of many she retired, and since then has resided in her exceedingly comfortable home on East Fifth Street, Beardstown.

In 1862 Miss Wall was married to Dr. Moses Morton Dowler, born in the state of Virginia, a physician of high standing who carried on a large practice at Beardstown and Rushville. He was a carefully trained professional man, having been educated at Bellevue, New York, and the Rock Island Medical College. His death occurred in 1906, at Kansas City, Mo., where he is buried. Dr. and Mrs. Dowler were the parents of the following children: Arthur S., who is a physician of Panora, Iowa; Walter R., who is of Oakland, Cal., and Florence Marie, who was a graduate of the Beardstown High school and taught there for one year, but died in 1902, aged twenty years. Mrs. Dowler is a member of the Methodist church, and is active in its many avenues of usefulness.

DOWNING, Hon. Finis E.—Among the citizens of Virginia, Cass County, Ill., who have become prominent in state-wide and national politics and have rendered their constituents and the general public efficient service in important offices, is Hon. Finis E. Downing of the city of Virginia, and formerly state senator, member of Congress and secretary of state of Illinois. He is a native of Cass County, Ill., and his birth took place at Virginia, August 24, 1846. His

father, Nathan Downing, was born in Kentucky, and when a young man, was a student in Knox College, in Missouri, where he studied theology and became a minister of the Presbyterian church. In 1842 Nathan Downing was married, in Missouri, to Eliza J. Head, and then established himself in the town of Virginia, Ill., where he brought about the building of the first Presbyterian church. Of this he was pastor until 1852, when he resigned the pastorate, dying the following year. Rev. Nathan Downing was also instrumental in the erection of Union Seminary, of which he became the first president. The children of Nathan and Eliza J. (Head) Downing were as follows: John C., who died in the Union army during the Civil war; Finis E.; and Lucy J. (Mrs. R. D. Middleton), who died in 1902.

In boyhood Finis E. Downing attended the district schools and a seminary, after which he took a college course. He continued to make his home with his mother until January 8, 1868, when he was married to Susan Payne, a native of Kentucky. They had one son, Harry F., who lives in Virginia, Cass County. Mrs. Nathan Downing died in 1893, and Mrs. Finis (Susan Payne) Downing passed away July 16, 1900.

On August 12, 1902, Mr. Downing was united in marriage with Missouri Reel, who was born in Jacksonville, Ill., and was the widow of Judge Griggsby of Pittsfield, Ill. They had one daughter, Edith, who died at the age of seven years.

After his first marriage Finis E. Downing went into the mercantile business, selling dry goods, boots and shoes, etc., which he conducted until 1870. In that year he sold out and went to Butler, Mo., where, with a Mr. Boggs, he kept a general store. This they sold out in 1875 and Mr. Downing returned to Cass County, Ill., and for four years was engaged in the dry goods trade in Virginia.

Politically long active in the Democratic party, in 1880 he was elected, on that ticket, circuit clerk of Cass County, in which office he served one term. He was then elected to the state senate, of which body he was secretary during former Governor Altgeld's administration. In 1894 Mr. Downing was elected to Congress from the Sixteenth Illinois Congressional District, serving until 1896, when he was elected secretary of state of Illinois.

Mr. Downing was admitted to the bar in 1888. In 1891 he purchased the Virginia Enquirer, which he conducted until 1901, when he transferred the paper to his son. Mr. Downing adheres to the Christian Science belief. Fraternally he is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M. and is a Knight Templar; the I. O. O. F.; and the M. W. A. In his long and busy life Finis E. Downing has served his countrymen well and his ears are now met with the cheering utterance—"Well done, good and faithful servant."

DOYLE, Thomas, who was elected chief of the police force of Beardstown, is one of the men of Cass County who has won promotion and high standing through individual effort and personal merit. He was born at Flushing, N. Y., November 24, 1843, a son of John and Bridget (Ryan) Doyle, natives of County Tipperary, Ireland. In 1840 these parents came to the United States and located in New York state, where the father was employed as a gardener. Not being satisfied, however, he left New York for Illinois, and on January 1, 1849, arrived at Beardstown, where he subsequently worked in the packing houses and nurseries.

Thomas Doyle was the only child of his parents and whatever education he had was obtained at intervals in the public schools before he was seven years old, and at that tender age he began working in a packing house. When he was twenty years old he went into railroad work, but in 1874 was elected marshal of Beardstown, holding that office for two years. Later he was in the retail liquor business for seven years, and then was in the railroad shops for six months. Embarking in a grocery business, he conducted it for thirteen years, selling it to become a member of the police force of Beardstown. In time his services were recognized by his appointment as chief of the force.

On October 8, 1875, Chief Doyle was married to Anna Burke, born at Ithaca, N. Y., a daughter of Dennis and Bridget (Jennings) Burke, of County Mayo, Ireland. They have had the following children: Rosa, who died September 2, 1913, was born July 2, 1876; Lucy, who was born January 23, 1884, is at home; Flora Bridget, who was born June 13, 1887, is at home; and James William, who was born July 6, 1888, conducts a drug store at Beardstown. Thomas Doyle is a Catholic in religious faith. In politics he is a Democrat and active in the work of his party. He is a member of the Western Catholic Union.

DUCHARDT, John.—The most successful of Cass County agriculturalists are those who have not been content to confine their efforts to work along ordinary lines, but have branched out and achieved astonishing results. The conditions in this locality are favorable to experimentation, and those who are taking advantage of these opportunities, are proving to themselves and others the value of such action. One of these progressive farmers is John Duchardt, of Hickory Precinct, who was born in this precinct October 10, 1851, a son of Christian and Mary (Nollch) Duchardt, natives of Hesse Darmstadt and of Wurttemberg, Germany, respectively. The maternal grandparents came to Cass County, Ill., at an early day. Christian Duchardt located at Quincy, Ill., upon coming to America, where he worked as a butcher. Later he came to Cass County and entered a farm from the government three miles north of Virginia. This land was covered with timber, but he cleared it and made it a valuable property. He married at Virginia and settled on his farm where he died about 1899, having survived his wife. They had two children: Elizabeth, who is Mrs. William Needham, of Virginia, Ill.; and John.

THEODORE QUERNHEIM

MRS. THEODORE QUERNHEIM

John Duchardt always lived on the homestead and was educated in the schools of his district. He now owns about 500 acres of fertile farming land, the greater portion of which he rents. He has large stock interests, raising Angora goats, draught horses, mules, ponies, cattle and hogs, his stock being noted for its excellence in every particular. His success in stock raising has brought him fame in this line, and his advice is often sought as an expert. In politics he is a Progressive.

DUFELMEIER, William, one of the representative farmers of Cass County, is comfortably located at Beardstown where he is enjoying the fruits of a life of hard work and frugality. He was born in Hanover, Germany, May 7, 1848. His parents died when he was a child, and an aunt, who had come to Beardstown, Ill., sent him the money to join her, when he was seventeen years of age. Arriving in Cass County, he found employment among the farmers by the month, and worked in this manner for seven years. On March 21, 1872, he married Mary Meyer of Arenzville, Ill., and then rented land from his father-in-law for a few years. He then bought 120 acres of prairie land, and twenty acres of timber, four miles northwest of Arenzville. Moving on this, he improved the place, but on account of a succession of crop failures could scarcely keep up his interest on the money he had borrowed to make the purchase. However, his steadfast efforts brought about desirable results, and in time he had his land paid for and was making money. Burdened with the continued ill health of his wife, however, he retired from the farm and moved to Beardstown, where she died in 1901, having had no children.

On November 14, 1901, Mr. Dufelmeier married (second) Sophia Broeker, born at Beardstown, June 15, 1868, and they have the following children: Marie, born Nov. 13, 1902; Alma, born Jan. 16, 1906, and Paul and Clara, who died in infancy. After his second marriage, Mr. Dufelmeier returned to his farm and continued to improve it, but in 1911, once more came to Beardstown, renting his farm to others, and since then has remodeled his residence, which is one of the fine homes in the city.

Mr. Dufelmeier has had some interesting experiences during his life, and is a well informed man, although he had very little opportunity to attend school, and that only in Germany. In crossing the ocean, his ship took seven weeks and two days on the trip, and met with some very heavy weather, there being a storm which nearly wrecked it. When he arrived at Beardstown, in the fall of 1866, he had but one cent left, but as he was a willing worker, that made but little difference to him, and he has lived to see the day when he is prosperous and highly respected in the land of his adoption. He belongs to the Lutheran church. A Republican, he has served as a school trustee for two years in Arenzville Precinct. He has the satisfaction of being able to say that he has never had a law-suit nor any court trouble in his life.

EDWARDS, John E.—An enterprising and progressive farmer of Ashland, Ill., is a man who is well and favorably known in the community of which he is a member as an intelligent and well informed citizen. His farm is situated in township 18, range 9, n., Cass County, and on it, besides general farming, he is successfully engaged in raising horses, cattle, mules and hogs, and his attention is now devoted wholly to the duties of his farm.

John E. Edwards is a son of one of the early settlers of Cass County, his father and mother, John and Ruth (Sharp) Edwards, having come from England with their family, and entered up a large tract of timber land. Here John E. Edwards was born, January 3, 1877. By his first wife, who died about the year 1871, John Edwards had the following children: Charlotte (Mrs. Thomas Baker), of Washington, Kan.; Jane (Mrs. Hiram Smith), of Cass County, Ill.; Mary (Mrs. Tilford Cline), of Cass County; William F. and George, of Ashland, Ill.; John, of Macoupin County, Ill.; Samuel, of Menard County, Ill.; Thomas, of St. Paul, Minn.; and Sarah, who died in 1872, aged twenty-two years. After a while John Edwards returned to England on a visit, and about the year 1875 married again and brought his second wife to his farm in Cass County. He added to the farm until it comprised more than 600 acres. At first he lived in a log cabin, but later bought the old Garner church, which he moved to the farm, and used for a dwelling until he built the present home in 1871. He was an extensive raiser of cattle, horses and hogs. He held several local offices and organized School District No. 27. In 1872 he built a fine frame house and otherwise improved his property. John Edwards died in November, 1887, and his widow, who now lives in Brown County, Ill., married John Thomas. By her Mr. Edwards had the following children, namely: John E.; Harry, of Ashland, Ill.; Anna (Mrs. H. O. Brownback), of Ashland, Ill.; Della (Mrs. H. E. Booker), of Menard County, Ill.; Olive (Mrs. Fred Yetting), of Arvado, Colo.; Forrest, of Waverley, Ill.; Charles and Lee, of Lees Summitt, Mo.; and Nellie, who died in infancy.

After his father's death John E. Edwards remained with his mother about four years. In youth he had attended the district schools of the neighborhood and Brown's Business College, at Jacksonville, where he spent two years, and after his graduation, in the winter of 1895-96, he worked two years in a railroad ticket office at St. Paul, Minn. Then returning home, he resumed farming, purchasing the homestead of 285 acres from the other heirs, together with his mother's dower.

In February, 1902, Mr. Edwards was united in marriage with Mattie Hinchee, a native of Cass County, and a daughter of J. M. and Mary (Clark) Hinchee, of the same county. They have five children, as follows: Irene, Byron

O., Dwight, Joseph Eugene, and an infant daughter.

Mr. Edwards is quite public spirited and takes considerable interest in public affairs. For three years he served as deputy assessor of township 18, range 9, Cass County, and has officiated as school director since 1903 in Oregon Precinct; as committeeman since 1902; and as senatorial committeeman of the Thirtieth District since 1912. He is a popular man and is considered a representative farmer and a model member of the community in which he lives.

EDWARDS, William F.—One of the most prosperous and substantial farmers in western Illinois, and one who is favorably known throughout Cass County, is William F. Edwards, whose home is in the vicinity of the town of Ashland. The farm on which he lives is situated in section 9, township 17, range 8, n., and consists of 200 acres of land. In addition to this, he owns about 500 acres in township 18, range 8. Mr. Edwards is a native of Cass County, where his birth took place August 13, 1854. His father was John Edwards, of English nativity, and the maiden name of his mother, also born in England, was Elizabeth Peat. They were married in England, and on coming to the United States, located in Cass County, Ill., where the father always carried on farming and stockraising.

In youth William F. Edwards received his education in the country schools in his neighborhood, and from that time on, devoted himself to farming. For two years, he farmed near the town of Virginia, and then moved to the vicinity of Chandlerville, where he remained five years, then made another move, taking the farm on which he now lives, and has occupied it for thirty-one years. He has improved it in every way, and has erected fine buildings on it. He calls it the "Cox Grove Farm," having bought it on a court decree, his being part of the second transfer from the government.

On June 20, 1879, William F. Edwards was married to Lucinda F. Stout, born in Cass County, Ill., June 5, 1858, a daughter of Emely and Elvira (Denny) Stout, natives of New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards had the following children: Howard, who married Maud Strubel; Lloyd L., and Aletha Pearl, who married George Muttra and lives in Springfield. The mother of this family died April 16, 1911. The two sons are engaged in farming on land in Cass County that belongs to their father. The father formerly farmed extensively himself, feeding at one time a large number of cattle and hogs.

Mr. Edwards was reared within the folds of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a very sociable and pleasantly disposed man, and is popular with all who have been so fortunate as to make his acquaintance, which presupposes a large circle of friends. Fraternally, he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, of Tallula, Ill., and the I. O. O. F., of Ashland.

EICHENAUER, Rudolph C., whose life has been largely devoted to general farming and stockraising, has become one of the leading agriculturalists of Cass County. He was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, April 30, 1852, a son of John and Mary (Benhard) Eichenauer who came to the United States, landing at New Orleans after a voyage of eight weeks and two days. They had the misfortune to arrive in the South during the Civil war, and were blockaded. The father, at first, sawed wood to get enough money to support his family, but later became a wagonmaker, that being his trade, for the United States government. At the close of the war, he came up the river to Beardstown, Ill., and going out on the Sangamon River bottom, rented land near Chandlerville and at other places, until his purchase of a farm in the northeastern corner of Cass County. Ten years later, about eight years of this time having lived in Mason County, he moved to Chandlerville, and lived retired until his death June 2, 1912, aged eighty-six years. The mother died January 27, 1905. Their children were as follows: John, who is deceased; Rudolph C.; Henry, who lives in Menard County, Ill.; George, who is of California; Bernard, who is of Kansas; Theodore, who is deceased; William who is of Mason County, Ill.; and Mary, who resides in Iowa.

Rudolph C. Eichenauer attended school at New Orleans for a short period, and continued with his parents until his marriage in 1876, when he rented the McCally farm on the Sangamon River bottom. Seven years later he rented the Taylor farm, one-half mile away, and nine years later, he moved on the Henry Dick farm near Chandlerville, and there resided until 1905, when he bought 210 acres of land in township 18, range 9, known as the old John Holmes farm. This property was partly improved, but he has replaced the buildings then standing with modern ones. On this farm he continues to carry on general farming and stockraising. On March 3, 1876, he married Magdelena Schneider, who was born in Cass County, Ill., April 30, 1854, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Nies) Schneider, born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany. Their children have been as follows: Augusta, who married Henry Lovekamp of Cass County; John, who died in infancy; Reuben, who is at home; Albert, who is of Cass County; and Freda and Alma, who live at home, the latter teaching school. Mr. Eichenauer belongs to the Lutheran church and is a Republican in politics.

ELAM, Stephen F., a prosperous farmer and land owner of township 18, range 11, is a man who has proven his worth as a man and citizen. He was born in Woodford County, Ky., February 21, 1826, a son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Furr) Elam, born in Kentucky. In 1828, these parents drove overland to Arcadia, Ill., where they remained a short time, and then went to Beardstown, the father in both places working at his trade of coopering, and still later, continued working at his trade at Jacksonville, Ill., where the mother died, following which he returned to Beardstown, and there spent the remainder of his life.

Until he was ten years old, Stephen F. Elam resided with his parents, and attended a subscription school for three months. At that early age, he began to earn his own living, and worked in various ways in and about Beardstown, and was thus engaged when, on June 18, 1846, he enlisted in Company K, under Colonel Hardin, for service during the war with Mexico. After serving about a year, he was honorably discharged and returning to Beardstown, he worked as a carpenter until 1858. In that year he was elected marshal of Beardstown, and held that office for some time. In the meanwhile he invested in 200 acres of land at Bluff Springs, which was one of the first farms to be improved in Cass County. Scarcely had he located upon his property, than he felt called upon to again serve his country, and he enlisted in the Union army in 1863, as a member of the secret service force. After his honorable discharge from the duties of this service, he returned to his farm, where he has since remained, being engaged in farming.

In 1852, Mr. Elam married Margaret Norton, who was born at Wheeling, W. Va., a daughter of Thomas and Mary A. Norton. Mr. and Mrs. Elam became the parents of the following children: Catherine, who is Mrs. John Merritt of Elgin, Ill.; George, who is of Canton, Ill.; and John, who is conducting the homestead. Mr. Elam is a Democrat, but is not active in politics. Fraternally he belongs to the Masonic lodge of Beardstown. A man of high principles and unflinching honesty, Mr. Elam has won and retained the full confidence of his associates, and he is justly considered one of the loyal and dependable men of Cass County.

ELLIOTT, William.—A considerable proportion of the farming element of Cass County, Ill., and indeed, of other elements in its population which have been largely instrumental in contributing to the public prosperity, is of Irish birth or Irish extraction. In every walk of life are and have been conspicuous men of intelligence, vigor and indomitable energy, who have honored the appellation of American citizenship in the full significance of that name, while cherishing a natural pride in the Emerald Isle as the land of their birth or of the origin of their forefathers. As an illustration of this large and worthy class of Cass County residents, the subject of this biographical record may be adduced in evidence.

County Antrim, Ireland, was the birthplace of William Elliott, as it was also of his parents, John and Nancy (Balia) Elliott. William was born June 28, 1837, and the family shortly afterwards sailed for America, consuming eight weeks on the voyage to this country. Landing in New York, they journeyed westward to Illinois, locating at Beardstown. On arriving, with seven children, the father had but $80 as his capital. For several years he rented farms, working in packing houses at Beardstown in the winter season. In course of time John Elliott bought some improved land in the eastern portion of Cass County, and at a subsequent period entered additional land, so that at one time he owned 330 acres. The latter part of his life he spent in Virginia, dying in 1889 at the age of eighty-eight years. His wife passed away in 1872. Their children were: Hugh, deceased; Nancy (Mrs. J. D. Thompson), of Cass County, Mo.; Mary (Mrs. William Mullin), a widow, of Cass County, Mo.; William; John, killed in the Union army; Margaret (Mrs. William Ross), deceased; and David, of Virginia. William Ross, husband of Margaret, is a resident of Cass County.

William Elliott attended the district schools in his neighborhood in Cass County, and lived with his parents until his marriage. In 1863 Mr. Elliott was wedded to Mildred Brady, who died in 1864. His second wife, married in 1866, was Betsy Reagan, who passed away in 1909, without children. His third marriage took place in 1910, when he was united with Mamie Wilson, a widow, born in Jacksonville. After his marriage Mr. Elliott bought a tract of land lying next to the home place. He also purchased the 330 acre farm belonging to his father, towards which he traded eighty acres of his own. This he cultivated, and fed considerable livestock as well. In 1882 he withdrew from active pursuits and moved to Virginia, where he bought a fine residence, in which he established his home. Since then he has rented out his land.

In politics Mr. Elliott is a Democrat. He has been a very successful farmer, and is enjoying in comfortable retirement the rewards of a long life of industry and economy. He has many friends, and is much respected.

EMERICH, David William, proprietor of a saw mill of considerable importance to his neighborhood, is one of the substantial men of Cass County. He was born in the northwestern part of Cass County, September 30, 1874, a son of John and Emeline (Shafer) Emerich, the former born in Van Buren County, Iowa, November 29, 1839, and the latter in Cass County, Ill., April 18, 1844. The grandparents on the paternal side were William and Abigail (Henderson) Emerich, natives of Morgan County, Ill., while the grandparents on the mother's side were Christopher and Rachel (Emerich) Shafer, natives of Rockbridge County, Va., and Morgan County, Ill., respectively. The parents of David W. Emerich married in Cass County, Ill., and then located in Hickory Township, where the father farmed from 1863 until March, 1914, when he left the farm to live with his son, David W., the mother dying March 14, 1914. Their children were: Elizabeth, who is deceased; Alonzo M., who resides at Peoria; John Franklin, who is deceased; Rose H., who is Mrs. Alonzo Pope, of Oklahoma; Mary H., who lives on the home farm; David W.; Jeanette G., who is on the home farm; and Oliver Dewitt, who resides at Chandlerville, Ill.

David W. Emerich resided on the home farm with his brother Oliver until 1900, when they bought a threshing machine outfit and operated it together for two years, and then David W.

bought out his brother's interest and continued until 1911, when he sold. In the meanwhile, about 1902, he had gone into a sawmill business and dealt in lumber for two years, and now has a custom sawmill, which is operated by a traction engine, and he gives employment to five men the year round.

On December 20, 1911, Mr. Emerich married Anna Margaret Nollsch, born on section 70, a daughter of Gottlieb and Catherine (Hobig) Nollsch. The father, born in Hesse Darmstadt in 1822, died in Cass County, north of Virginia. The mother was born in 1837 and died in 1912. The paternal grandparents, John P. and Anna Margaret Nollsch, came to Cass County in 1842. The maternal grandparents were John and Anna Gertrude Hobig, who came to St. Louis, Mo., in 1847. He was born in 1799 and was a nurseryman and gardener, and died in 1887. Mrs. Hobig was born in 1801 and died in 1848. All these pioneers settled in the woods of Cass County and took up land.

ERICSON, Carl, a business man of Virginia, was born near Guttenburg, Sweden, May 25, 1877, a son of Eric and Anna (Magnusson) Ericson. After receiving a public school education in his native land, Carl Ericson came to the United States, arriving here March 22, 1893, and from New York came direct to Cass County. Here he engaged with an uncle who was a brick manufacturer of Virginia. After twelve years so spent, during which time he was learning the business and acquiring a knowledge of the language, he took a business course at a Chicago commercial college, from which he was graduated in 1897. Returning to Virginia, he went into partnership with Lee Skiles in a brick and coal business, which association continued until January 22, 1914, when he bought his partner's interest, and is now conducting the concern alone.

On August 31, 1907, Mr. Ericson was married to Grace Martin, a daughter of George Martin. She died in June, 1908, and is buried in the Virginia cemetery. Mr. Ericson was married (second) on June 19, 1912, to Ethel Plummer, a daughter of E. S. and Susanna (Beach) Plummer. They have one son, Carl Erland, born March 20, 1913. Mr. Ericson joined the Masonic order at Virginia in 1910. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, of which he is an elder, and he is superintendent of the Sunday school. His mother died in Sweden in 1898, aged about fifty-five years, but his father survives, still residing in Sweden.

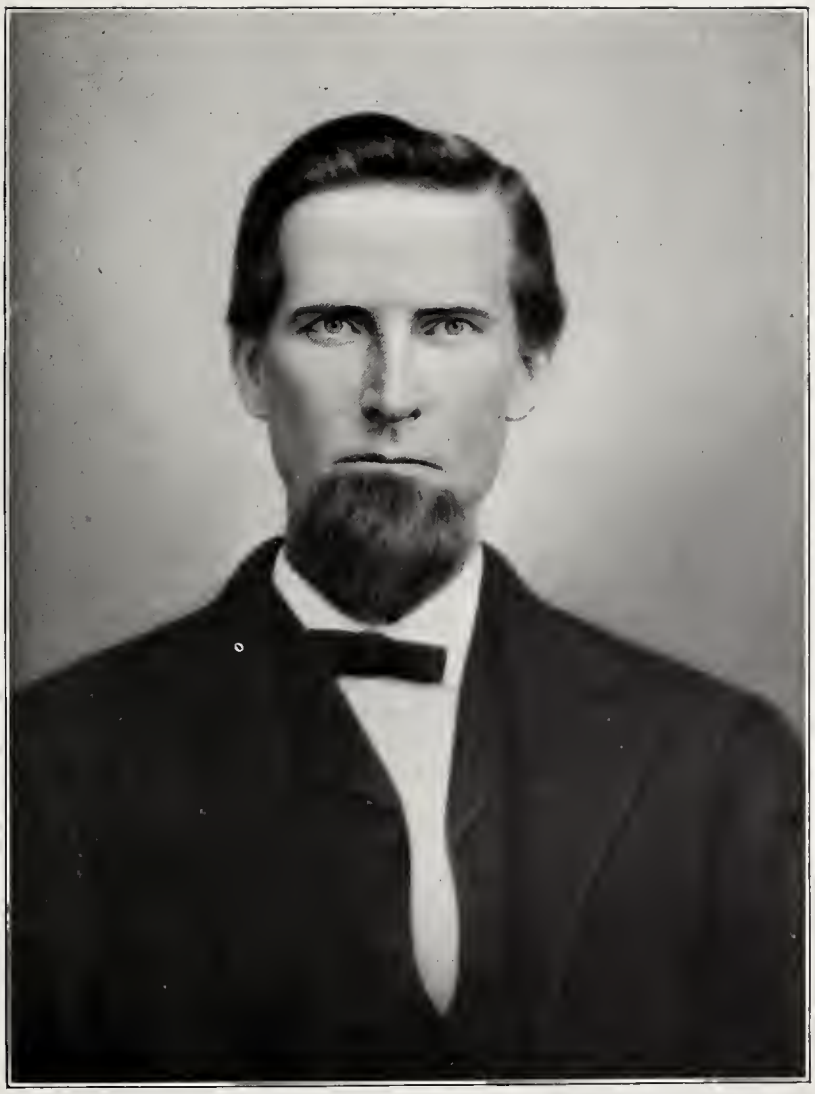
FELKER, Leonard W.—The attorneys of Cass County are, perhaps, as well informed and learned men as can be found in the legal profession in any part of the state, their achievements in jurisprudence standing as valuable testimony to their ability and training. One of those deserving of more than passing mention is Leonard W. Felker, of Beardstown. He was born at Starr City, Pulaski County, Ind., September 20, 1873, a son of Ephraim and Rebecca (Decker) Felker. He received his educational training in the public schools of his native place, the University of Indiana and at Indianapolis, where he took a law course. After his graduation, he was admitted to the bar, and to practice in the state and federal courts. Following this he entered at once upon the duties of his profession, under the firm name of Barders & Felker, at Winamac, Ind. This association continued until 1903, when the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Felker going to Gardner, Grundy County, Ill. There he continued in practice until 1913. In that year he came to Beardstown, where he is conveniently located in finely equipped offices, and is enjoying a large practice.

Mr. Felker was married at Starr City, Ind., June 29, 1898, to Miss Frances M. Washburn, a daughter of Isaac L. and Mary (McCombs) Washburn, natives respectively of Pulaski County and Cass County, Ill. Mr. Felker is a member of the Christian church. Politically he is a Democrat, and his fraternal associations are with the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen, both at Beardstown.

FINN, Thomas L., manager of the Warner Randolph Company, Incorporated, is one of the substantial men of Virginia. This company was incorporated in 1908 with a capital stock of $50,000, by Horace Warner, C. R. Randolph and Alice Weinstein, the first named being president; Mr. Randolph, vice president, and Alice Weinstein, secretary and treasurer as well as a director. There have been some changes since then, the present officers being: Horace Warner, president and treasurer; Thomas Oddy, vice president; and Alice Weinstein, secretary. This company owns and operates several stores, the one at Virginia being under the direct management of Thomas L. Finn, who was born at Virginia, Ill., October 27, 1882, a son of John and Alvina (Thompson) Finn.

After passing through the grammar school, Mr. Finn took the high school course, and was graduated therefrom in 1900. At once he entered upon a mercantile life and has since been identified with this line of endeavor. His fraternal associations are with the Modern Woodmen of America, which order he joined at Ashland, and the Red Men, which he joined at Virginia, and he is chief of records of the latter. On January 1, 1905, Mr. Finn was united in marriage with Mabel Cooper, a daughter of George and Ida (Gaines) Cooper. The one child of this marriage, Thelma, born November 2, 1907, died April 14, 1913. Mr. Finn is admittedly one of the leading spirits of Virginia, and his influence in business and social circles is felt and acted upon.

FISHER, Fred L.—Statistics prove that the raising of poultry is a very profitable business, provided it is carried on intelligently and scientifically. The demand for dressed poultry and fresh eggs is far in excess of the supply, and those who have embarked in the business of



Henry Quigg

handling these products have every reason to be satisfied with their investment of time and money. Fred L. Fisher is one of the enterprising men of Cass County who has proven the truth of these statements, having developed one of the largest enterprises of its kind in this section, and located it at Virginia.

Fred L. Fisher was born in Morgan County, Ill., April 5, 1874, and was brought to Cass County by his parents in infancy. After completing a public school course, he turned his attention to raising poultry and has continued in this line ever since, now handling about 40,000 fowls annually. In time he bought the plant built by W. F. Throckmorton, which is thoroughly equipped for cleaning and dressing poultry of all kinds. Shipments are made to the eastern market, and Mr. Fisher's produce commands high prices. In 1893, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage with Estella May Paul, and they have four children, namely: Pauline, George Dewey, Berneita, and Harry Frederick. A man of industrious habits, Mr. Fisher has worked his way up, depending upon himself for his advantages and while he does not care for public honors, he takes the interest any good citizen displays in the welfare of his community.

FOZZARD, William Howard, now residing on the farm of his parents in township 17, range 11, is one of the successful agriculturists of Cass County, whose prosperity is well merited. He was born on this farm October 24, 1881, a son of William F. and Anna Louise (Charlesworth) Fozzard, natives of Cass County, the former born March 25, 1849, and the latter born May 18, 1857. After their marriage they located on Mr. Fozzard's homestead, which he had bought, it then consisting of eighty acres, and to this he added fifty-five acres.

The only child of his parents, William Howard Fozzard was reared upon the farm which he has conducted since 1905. At present he operates the entire farm, carrying on general farming. In addition to attending the public schools of his district, Mr. Fozzard took a steam and electric course through the Scranton Correspondence School.

On February 16, 1909, Mr. Fozzard married Bessie May Wright, born in Lewis County, Mo., June 20, 1886, a daughter of William Thomas and Nannie (Tumey) Wright, of Lewis County, Mo. The parents of Mrs. Fozzard have been living in Shelby County, Mo., since the fall of 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Fozzard have one child, George William, who was born February 28, 1911. The Methodist church of Monroe holds the membership of Mr. Fozzard and his mother and family, and he is one of its trustees. In politics he is a Democrat. The Fozzard family is one of the most respected in Cass County, where Mr. Fozzard personally stands very high in public esteem.

FRANK BROS., florists, is a firm composed of enterprising business men of Beardstown, whose energies have been directed towards improving their plant and bringing their business up to standard in every respect. This business was founded by Robert and Charles Frank, and is located on Adams and Fifth streets. There are five greenhouses, amounting to 10,000 feet of glass, which they built themselves. The firm has made some very extensive improvements and their facilities for growing hot house plants are unexcelled in Cass County. The partners have their own water and heating system, and spare no pains or money to bring their concern up to perfection. Frank Bros. handle potted plants, cut flowers, and various kinds of vegetable plants for the market.

Robert Frank, the senior member of the firm, was born in Baden, Germany, September 24, 1862, and came to the United States in 1881. Locating at St. Louis, he worked in a florist establishment for ten years, and then came to Beardstown, Ill., where he has since remained. He has never married.

Charles Frank, the junior member of the firm, was born in Baden, Germany, February 1, 1866, and in 1888 joined his brother at St. Louis. For two years he worked as a florist in that city, and then for two years traveled through California and other western states. He then located at Beardstown, and the two brothers established their present business. In September, 1907, Charles Frank married Della Asastin, a native of Pope County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Frank have one child, Wilma. Charles Frank is a Freemason. Both the brothers are men of ability, devoted to their work, and their advance is steady and certain.

FRANKENFIELD, Henry P., a prosperous farmer and stockraiser whose efforts in behalf of agricultural betterment have advanced the supremacy of Cass County very considerably, owns 305 acres of land in section 36, township 19, range 9. He was born in this county September 27, 1876, a son of Theodore and Susan C. (Morris) Frankenfield, the former born at Pritsvault, Germany, and the latter in Cass County, Ill. The father was a farmer and stockraiser. After his death, the mother married Woodrow Power, and they live at Petersburg, Ill.

Henry P. Frankenfield was reared on the farm and obtained his educational training in the schools of his district. He owns, as above mentioned, 305 acres of excellent land, 200 acres of which is under cultivation, the remainder being devoted to pasturage and timber. He belongs to Chandlerville Lodge No. 724, A. F. & A. M., and both he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star. In politics he is a Democrat, but does not desire office. The Baptist church holds his membership in which he is a deacon.

Mr. Frankenfield was married in Springfield, Ill., by Judge Murray on June 15, 1905, to Effie Crafton, born in Mason County, Ill., November 5, 1888, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Lane) Crafton. They were born in Mason County, where the mother died March 10, 1913,

and where the father is still residing. Mr. and Mrs. Frankenfield have one daughter, Edna Pauline, who was born September 15, 1906.

GAILEY, Darwin S., M. D., a physician and surgeon of Ashland, is one of the best examples of the skilled medical man of his generation to be found in Cass County. He was born at Prentice, Morgan County, Ill., January 2, 1876, a son of Dr. William Watson and Mary E. (Sinclair) Gailey, natives of Newcastle, Pa., and Sinclair, Morgan County, Ill. The father was a physician and surgeon who located in Morgan County soon after the Civil war, where he died September 27, 1911. The mother lives at Jacksonville, Ill. Their children were as follows: Byron S., who is of Jacksonville, Ill.; Darwin S.; E. P., who is an attorney at law at Houston, Tex.; Marsh D., who died in infancy; W. W., Jr., who is a physician of Bloomington, Ill.; and Rowena, who is a resident of Chicago.

Darwin S. Gailey attended the University of Michigan and the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, and after receiving his medical degree began practicing at Ashland on June 20, 1897. A few months later he went to Utah, and spent six months at Ogden, after which he returned to Ashland and resumed his practice. He is admittedly the leading physician of this place.

On September 25, 1897, Dr. Gailey was married to Lee Elmore, born in Morgan County, Ill., a daughter of V. C. and Elizabeth Elmore. Dr. and Mrs. Gailey have two children: Elmore and Dana Elizabeth. Dr. Gailey has served as a member of the town board, and was president of that body for some time, and at present is president of the board of education. A Republican, he has been his party's district committeeman for many years. In every relation of life, Dr. Gailey has proven himself a man of worth, and his value is appreciated by his fellow townsmen.

GAINES, Lawrence B., general passenger and freight agent of the C. P. & St. L. Railroad, at Virginia, is one of the substantial railroad men of Cass County, and one whose work in connection with his chosen calling is of a nature not only to gain him promotion, but to enhance the value of the traffic on his road. Mr. Gaines was born in Cass County, on a farm, July 6, 1880, a son of Preston F. and Emma (Bateman) Gaines, and the youngest of the four children born to his parents. These parents came to Cass County, Ill., about 1855. The father enlisted for service in the Civil war, from Morgan County, and served for four years. His death occurred in 1898, when he was fifty-six years old. The mother survives, making her home at Virginia.

Lawrence B. Gaines secured his educational training in the schools of the county, and began railroad work at Virginia, Ill., in the employ of the B. & O. Railroad. From there he went to Jacksonville, where he spent a year, and then for another year was at Little Indian, Ill. Once more he went with the B. & O. Railroad, and in April, 1904, he took charge of his present station, and has continued here ever since, giving universal satisfaction. During the fifteen years he has been in railroad work, Mr. Gaines has proven his ability, and gained a host of warm supporters.

On December 25, 1902, Mr. Gaines was married to Clara Wyatt, a daughter of Fenton and Alice (Carver) Wyatt, and they have one son, Farrell. Mr. Gaines is a member of the Masonic fraternity. The Methodist church is his religious home, and he enjoys promoting its benevolent work and extending its influence.

GARM, Robert H., cashier of the First State Bank of Beardstown, and a man widely and favorably known throughout Cass County as a man of highest probity and excellent financial standing, was born at a point six miles east of Beardstown, August 30, 1854, a son of Henry and Mary D. (Haywood) Garm. The father was a native of Hanover, Germany, while the mother was born in Cornwall, England. The latter came in childhood to America with the family of John H. Harris, who arrived in Cass County, Ill., in 1842. Henry Garm came to Cass County in young manhood, and here married. Until 1868 he was a farmer, but in that year moved to Beardstown, where he engaged in a grain business, later, with his son, Robert H., embarking in a clothing business, they continuing together until the father's death, August 11, 1902. The mother later moved to Springfield, Ill., where she now resides, being now in her eighty-fourth year. They had the following children: John T., who is of Beardstown; Joseph E., who is of Joplin, Mo.; Mary E., who is Mrs. Dr. T. P. Norbury, of Springfield, Ill.; Frank, who died in 1889; and Robert H.

Robert H. Garm, when only eighteen years old, was associated with Nathaniel Benneson in a clothing business at Beardstown. Two years later Christian Pilger bought the Benneson interest, and Mr. Garm and Mr. Pilger continued together for two years, when Mr. Garm became the sole proprietor, and continued as such for ten years, when his father became his partner. After his father's death Mr. Garm sold his interest to his brother and accepted the position of cashier of the First State Bank of Beardstown, and has held it continuously since 1893.

On April 4, 1898, Mr. Garm was married to Tillie C. Dutch, a daughter of Richard and Alice Dutch, natives of England. They have two children: Roy H., a physician of Beardstown; and Clifford C. Mr. Garm is a member of the Methodist church and has held all the church offices, including that of trustee, and has acted as such since 1904. For nine years he served on the city school board, and during one term was mayor of Beardstown, during which time the city had a sound, businesslike administration. Fraternally he is a Mason, is a member of the Commandery, and has held many offices in that order, now being treasurer of Cass

Lodge No. 123. He also belongs to Ark Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F.; and additionally is identified with the Knights of Pythias, No. 207; the Court of Honor, and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is secretary of the Beardstown Building & Loan Association, and since 1904 has been chairman of the board of managers.

GARNER, Hanson A., a prosperous farmer of Cass County and one who stands well among the agriculturalists of his section, resides on township 18, range 11, section 30, where he owns forty-five acres of excellent land. He was born in Cass County, September 24, 1858, a son of William S. and Nancy M. (Crews) Garner, born in Cass County, Ill., December 16, 1837, and in Sangamon County, Ill., October 20, 1837, respectively. The father belonged to a pioneer family of Cass County and was reared amid the stern conditions of those early times. He developed into a judicious farmer and responsible man.

Hanson A. Garner attended the schools of his district and adopted farming as his life work. With the exception of three years during which he served as postmaster at Chandlerville, 1900-1903, he has spent his life upon farms and is well versed in agricultural work. In political views he is a Republican, while his religious faith makes him a Methodist, and he is a liberal supporter of his church.

On September 17, 1903, Mr. Garner was married, in Cass County, to Mary E. Richard, born March 4, 1871, and they have had the following children: William A., Evan R., Walter, Harold and Lucile. Mr. Garner is a man of kindly disposition, who is content to take the world as he finds it. His friends are many, and his enemies few, and wherever he goes he is sure of a hearty welcome for he is one whom all kind of men like and want to know.

GATTON, Zachariah W.—While nearly twenty years have passed since the death of Zachariah W. Gatton, there are many who still remember this old-time Illinois River pilot, agriculturist and banker, who contributed greatly to the advancement and development of Cass County during his long and useful career. He was born in Allen County, Ky., November 13, 1812, but was only fourteen years of age when brought to Cass County, and here the rest of his life was passed in participation in the events which marked the development of one of Illinois' most prosperous and flourishing counties.

Thomas Gatton, the father of Zachariah W. Gatton, was born in the state of Maryland, in 1774, and was five years of age when taken by his parents to Kentucky. There he engaged in merchandising when he had attained mature years, but in 1826 disposed of his Kentucky interests and came to Illinois, settling in the north part of Morgan County, which afterward became Cass County. He opened the first store in that locality, it being situated east of the present site of Little Indian station, and on September 18 of the same year he entered the west ½, northwest ¼, section 35, township 17, range 10, and subsequently eighty acres in section 33, township 18, north, range 10, on which the old I. M. Stribling homestead now stands.

Zachariah W. Gatton received his early education in the subscription schools, this being supplemented by several years of attendance at the public schools, and his boyhood was passed on the home farm and in his father's store. When a grown youth he qualified as a pilot on the Illinois River and during the several years in which he followed that vocation, made his home at Beardstown. However he soon returned to the pursuits of agriculture, and being very industrious and persevering succeeded in the accumulation of a large and valuable property adjoining the city of Virginia on the east. In his later years he branched out into other fields of activity, becoming particularly well known as a banker. He was one of the founders of the Farmers National Bank of Virginia, the first National bank in Cass County, of which he was for a number of years president. A man of the strictest integrity in all the affairs of life, he bore an honorable reputation among his associates and in his death, which occurred July 29, 1896, his community lost one of its best and most helpful citizens. Mr. Gatton was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He was politically an old line Whig until the organization of the Republican party and then joined that organization and remained its stanch supporter until his death.

On March 25, 1847, in Cass County, Ill., by Rev. George Rutledge, of the Methodist Episcopal church, Mr. Gatton was married to Miss Sarah C. Miller, who was born at Madison, Ohio, May 18, 1822, a daughter of Arthur St. Clair Miller, who was born at Middletown, Conn., in 1790, and moved to Kentucky in 1827. Mrs. Gatton is still living at her home in Virginia, having reached the somewhat unusual age of ninety-three years. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gatton, all at Virginia: twins, who died in infancy; Charles B., born April 14, 1850; and Emma, Kate, and William R.

GEBHARDS, Conrad, Jr.—One of the well known and promising young farmers of Cass County, Ill., who can muster many friends among the host of agricultural toilers of his own age in that vicinity, is the man whose name stands at the head of this personal record. Like many others in the same occupation he is of German descent, and inherits sturdy and substantial traits of character inherent in many of those of that nationality who have chosen to follow the work to which the paternal example led. Mr. Gebhards' home is near Chandlerville, and his farm lies in section 32, township 19, range 8, where his mother dwells with him. The post-office address is Chandlerville, Cass County, Ill., R. F. D. No. 1.

Conrad Gebhards, Jr., was born on the farm where he now lives, September 28, 1892. His father, Conrad Gebhards, Sr., was a German by birth, and his mother, born in Cass County,

was Catherine Ray before marriage. When the father first came to the United States he located in Petersburg, Menard County, and after farming there for awhile, moved to Cass County where he bought land and spent the remainder of his life in farming and stockraising. At the time of his death he was considered an old settler in western Illinois. In his youth, Conrad Gebhards, Jr., attended the district schools of his neighborhood, and then clerked for two years in a store in Chandlerville, Ill., returning at the end of that period to the home farm, where he has since remained. His mother and three brothers are interested in the farm, which consists of 160 acres, and besides farming raising stock is carried on.

On December 25, 1912, in Cass County, Mr. Gebhards was united in marriage with Bessie Hohimer, born in Menard County, Ill., January 14, 1893, daughter of John and Eliza (Elmore) Hohimer, of Sangamon and Menard counties, respectively. They have one daughter, Zelma K. Mr. Gebhards is a young man of pleasant disposition, quite sociable and hospitable, and is much liked by his neighbors. His religious connection is with the Baptist church. Although not active in politics, he acts with the Democratic party.

GERDES, William R., of Chandlerville, Ill., is a well known and industrious farmer, who is engaged in operating 160 acres of his own land and 192 acres, which he rents, in section 36, township 19, range 9, Cass County, Ill., and besides farming, devotes considerable attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs. He lives on a part of the farm that his father formerly owned. The latter, Folker W. Gerdes, who was born in Germany, was also a farmer and stockraiser. He came to the United States about 1855, settling in Cass County, and after working for awhile on different farms, bought land and improved it. On April 6, 1864, he was united in marriage with Mary E. Ray, a native of Cass County. They reared a family of children, one of whom is William R. Gerdes. He was born December 25, 1869. He attended the district schools of the neighborhood, and from early youth also spent time in performing duties on the farm. For some time he was connected with a creamery in Chandlerville, but since then has been occupied wholly in tilling the soil and raising stock. As a farmer his labor has been attended by success, and he is considered one of the thriving agriculturists of his locality.

On August 10, 1893, Mr. Gerdes was wedded by Rev. A. Sloan to Rosa M. Lewis, born July 25, 1875, a daughter of Kilbourn and Nancy Ann (Lucas) Lewis, natives of Cass County. They have children as follows: Lena Ethel, born September 6, 1894; Ernest Vern, born January 6, 1897; Bessie Mae, born September 18, 1901; Alva Ellsworth, born September 23, 1908; and Beulah Alice, born September 26, 1910.

Mr. Gerdes is a member of the Missionary Baptist church. In politics he acts with the Democratic party, and has rendered efficient public service as school director. In fraternal circles Mr. Gerdes is affiliated with the M. W. A. No. 3274, at Newmanville, Ill.; and the Court of Honor, at Chandlerville, while Mrs. Gerdes is a member of the Royal Neighbors and the Court of Honor.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerdes are sociable, genial and kindly people, and those who know them most intimately are their best friends, although they are popular with all their neighbors.

GERSMEYER, Charles H., one of the substantial men of Cass County, has attained to his present desirable position among his fellow citizens of Beardstown through honorable methods and the exercise of native ability. He was born in Germany, February 26, 1873, a son of Charles and Anna Maria (Bollman) Gersmeyer, natives of Germany. The father was a brick and plaster contractor, having learned his trade in Germany. He came to Beardstown in 1881, and here died, but the mother survives and still resides at Beardstown. Charles H. Gersmeyer was educated in the parochial schools of Cass County, and learned the cigar-making trade, which he followed until he started a business of his own in 1902, and is now a manufacturer and dealer in cigars. He owns his place of business and his residence and is considered a man of means. For twelve years he has been a member of the Knights of Pythias, and he also belongs to the Red Men. The Fourth Street Lutheran church of Beardstown holds his membership, and in his political views he is a Democrat.

On December 6, 1898, Mr. Gersmeyer was married to Minnie Heuer, a daughter of Carl and Louisa (Moeller) Heuer, all being natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Gersmeyer have had three children: Lillian, who was born September 28, 1899; Bernice, who was born April 11, 1907; and Carl F., born February 26, 1910, died in August, 1910. Mr. Gersmeyer is a man of genial, sociable inclinations and devoted to his business and family. The progress he has made has been fairly earned, and he stands well in his community.

GERSMEYER, Frederick William, a contracting carpenter and builder, is one of the men who has worked hard to bring about a better standard in construction work in Cass County, and has erected some of the leading structures at Beardstown and other points. He was born in Germany, December 17, 1875, a son of Carl and Anna M. (Bollman) Gersmeyer, natives of Germany. The father, who was a bricklayer and plasterer, left Germany in 1881 for the United States, and upon his arrival in this country made his way to Beardstown, Ill.

Frederick William Gersmeyer was reared at Beardstown and educated in its schools. He learned the carpenter trade and worked at it a few years, when he went into business with an associate under the firm name of Reller &



Andrew Schaad

Gersmeyer, which still continues. In addition to his interests in connection with this firm, Mr. Gersmeyer owns his residence at No. 308 West Eighth street, Beardstown, and has stock in the Beardstown State Bank.

On January 18, 1906, Mr. Gersmeyer was married in Cass County, Ill., to Sophia M. Heuer, born in Germany, November 5, 1873, a daughter of Carl and Louisa (Moeller) Heuer, both natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Gersmeyer have no children. He is a Democrat politically, and fraternally belongs to Beardstown Camp No. 579, M. W. A. Both he and wife belong to the Lutheran church of Beardstown. Mr. Gersmeyer is a very industrious man, a master of his trade, and one whose social proclivities and good natured manner make him a favorite wherever he goes.

GLENN, Robert B., manager of the Glenn Pure Ice Company, is one of the representative men of Cass County, and one who is prominently identified with the best interests of Beardstown. He was born in Lima, Ohio, March 13, 1876, a son of William Marshall and Mary (Curtis) Glenn. Mr. Glenn was educated in the Fort Wayne (Indiana) public schools and in the International Business College of that city. In May, 1893, he became connected with the Fort Wayne Artificial Ice Company as bookkeeper and remained with that company until October, 1894, when he resigned to accept service as fireman on a branch of the C. H. & D. R. R. at Dayton, Ohio. Later he accepted a position as fireman on the Middle Division of the Wabash R. R. at Decatur, Ill., and on March 10, 1898, he was promoted to the position of engineer. He served in this capacity until October, 1901, when he resigned to accept a similar position with the Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis. In October, 1903, he became connected with the Jacksonville and St. Louis R. R., and served with this company as engineer and round house foreman at Jacksonville, Ill., until May, 1904. When the road was absorbed by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy he was transferred to Beardstown and served in the capacity of engineer until 1910, when he was appointed road foreman of engines of the Beardstown Division. In April, 1911, he resigned this position to accept the presidency of the Beardstown Electric Light and Power Company. On January 1, 1913, the property of this company passed into the hands of the Central Illinois Public Service Company, and Mr. Glenn was retained as district superintendent of District "B." Later he was transferred to Taylorville, Ill., and was given a similar position in District "T." In September, 1914, he resigned and again returned to Beardstown, became associated with C. C. Garm and organized the Glenn Pure Ice Company.

On June 1, 1911, Mr. Glenn was married to Winifred Emmerson Harris, of Beardstown, a daughter of John Henry and Ann (Emmerson) Harris. The Harris family is one of the oldest and most highly respected in Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn have one son, John Harris Glenn, who was born March 20, 1914. Mr. Glenn comes from an old railroad family, his father having been connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad for fifty-five years.

Mr. Glenn belongs to the Methodist church. In politics he is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to Beardstown Lodge No. 1007 B. P. O. E.; E. St. Louis Lodge No. 504, A. F. & A. M.; Clark Chapter No. 29 R. A. M.; Division No. 665 B. of L. E.; Illinois State Gas and Electric Associations, and the Air Brake Association.

GREEN, Nicholas, now living practically retired at Beardstown, although still vitally interested in current events, is one of the substantial men of Cass County. He was born in Luxemburg, December 20, 1844, a son of John and Margaret (Hoffman) Green. John Green died in Luxemburg, and his widow later married her first husband's brother, and in 1853 they started on a sailing vessel for the United States. The voyage consumed seven weeks, and after they landed at New York they made their way to Chicago, Ill., and from there by boat proceeded to Port Washington, Wis. There Mrs. Green died, and Mr. Green later married a widow with two children. The family became a large one, as Nicholas Green had four brothers and sisters, and later there were several half brothers and sisters.

In spite of these several elements in the family, Nicholas Green continued to live at home and remained until he was fifteen years old, although he received but few educational advantages. At that age he came to Springfield, Ill., where he found employment in a private family. On April 1, 1863, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company D, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, and his regiment was ordered to a point twenty-five miles from Memphis, Tenn. After the fall of Vicksburg, Company A, of the same regiment, was assigned to duty as General Grant's body guard, and when General Grant and General Sherman left Vicksburg, the whole regiment was sent to Texas, where Mr. Green was honorably discharged in April, 1866. During his service he was advanced from private to corporal, and then to bugler, and continued as such until his discharge. While on a scouting expedition his horse was killed, throwing him into a ditch, and both of his wrists were sprained, and several times thereafter he was injured in the same manner, but otherwise escaped with the exception of a sunstroke, received at Vicksburg.

Following his discharge, he returned to Springfield, Ill. It was his intention to attend school, but found it not advisable to do so owing to the effects of the sunstroke above mentioned, and finally went to Chauncey, Ill., where he worked about two years, during which time he had his foot injured while assisting in loading a wagon with stone. In 1872 he came to Beardstown and worked on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, during the time that the railroad bridge was built across the

Illinois River. Following this he began working for farmers, and then rented land at Bluff Springs for five years, following which he rented another farm in the Sangamon bottom for a year, when he went to Iowa and bought a farm. Within a year, however, he sold out and returned to Beardstown, where he once more entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and was in their shops for many years. Owing to continued ill health he then retired from active work. He has acted as janitor of the Methodist church since 1910.

On April 17, 1873, Mr. Green married Mary Douglas, born at Beardstown, March 29, 1841, a daughter of Peter Douglas, and they became the parents of the following children: John D., who was born January 24, 1875, lives at Beardstown; Paul McClure, who was born July 8, 1877, lives at Beardstown; and Allen N., who was born August 8, 1880, died in Wisconsin in 1882. The Congregational church holds his membership, and in politics Mr. Green is a Republican.

GREENMEYER, Ernest H., for the past twenty-five years the popular and efficient city engineer of Beardstown, Cass County, Ill., is a native of this city, where his birth took place January 11, 1861. He is a son of John Frederick and Dorothy (Friecke) Greenmeyer, who were born in Hanover, Germany, where they grew up and were married, then emigrated to the United States, crossing the ocean to New Orleans by sailing vessel, and up the rivers by boat to Beardstown, where they located on a farm at the edge of the town. John Frederick Greenmeyer spent the remainder of his life there engaged in farming and died in 1882 at the age of sixty years; his widow passing away in 1894, when seventy-four years old. They had the following children: Anna (Mrs. John W. Hobrock), who died in 1885; Mary (Mrs. Dr. J. A. Folonie), deceased in 1897; and Ernest H.

In boyhood Ernest H. Greenmeyer attended the German Lutheran and public schools of Beardstown, and at the age of thirteen years began to work on a farm by the month, continuing this until he was twenty-one years old. At this period he started in the employ of the C., B. & Q. Railroad in the shops in Beardstown, where he remained two years. He then became an engineer, but the railroad strike in February, 1888, caused him to give this up, and he fired and ran extra on the Big Four Railroad from Mattoon, Ill., for two and one-half years. Later he was employed two and one-half years at Lafayette, Ind., and returning to Beardstown became city engineer, which position he has since held.

On May 1, 1884, Mr. Greenmeyer was united in marriage with Dina Koblenz, the ceremony being performed at Beardstown, where Mrs. Greenmeyer was born. She is a daughter of Charles and Marguerite (Depe) Koblenz, natives of Prussia, Germany. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Greenmeyer are as follows: Theresa, wife of A. J. Nolden, engineer of the Beardstown Milling Company; C. O., of Chicago, Ill., with the Continental and Commercial National Bank; and Dorothy D., wife of Fred Valentiner, of Beardstown, engineer on the C., B. & Q. R. R. Mr. Greenmeyer is a member of the German Lutheran church. He has been identified with the B. of L. F. & E. of Beardstown since 1886 and is also affiliated with the Court of Honor. He and his family are respected and esteemed wherever their acquaintance extends.

GREENWOOD, Knolton A.—The agricultural activities of Cass County are many, and the interested parties are men of prominence and good common sense. To their efforts is due much of the fertility of the land and the consequent abundance of the crops. One of the above mentioned men it Knolton A. Greenwood, of township 18, range 9, who is now operating the homestead of his parents, which he owns.

Knolton A. Greenwood was born February 21, 1852, a son of C. Decatur and Eliza Ann (Duckwilder) Greenwood, the former born in Roanoke County, Va., who, in 1851, moved to Illinois, settling at Chandlerville, the birthplace of his son, Knolton. There he rented land, although able to buy if he had wanted to do so. At that time it was considered more profitable to conduct another's property than to invest in the uncultivated land. In 1879, however, conditions having changed, he bought 120 acres of timber at Oregon Point, township 18, range 9, and with the help of his sons cleared off the timber and made many improvements. After the death of his wife, in 1899, he and his son Knolton kept house together until his death in 1907. He and his wife were the parents of sixteen children, nine of whom survive, namely: William, who is of Virginia; Flora, who is Mrs. August Frederick, of Chicago; Knolton; Frank, who is of Chandlerville; Samuel, who is of Virginia, Ill.; Joseph, who is of Decatur, Ill.; Lucretia, who is Mrs. John Miller, of Virginia, Ill.; Mrs. Haley Cappor, who lives at Chandlerville; and Emma, who is Mrs. Barrett, of Rockford, Ill.

Knolton A. Greenwood grew up on his father's farm, attending the schools of his district and gave valuable assistance in the early work of the farm. When the other children married and went to homes of their own, Knolton was called upon to assume the care of his parents and gave them filial attention. Later he bought the homestead where he resides, and takes great pride in this fine property. He has never married. In politics he is a Democrat.

GREENWOOD, William I.—One of the old and honored residents of Virginia, Ill., who is now living a retired life after many years spent in agricultural pursuits in Cass County, is William I. Greenwood. His career has been one of sturdy industry and tireless perseverance, and his honorable and well-directed efforts have been crowned by material success and the respect and esteem of his fellow men. Mr. Greenwood was born on the top of the highest moun-

tain in Virginia, McAfee's Knob, May 5, 1848, and is a son of Commodore Decatur and Eliza Ann (Duckwiler) Greenwood.

Commodore Decatur Greenwood was born in Virginia, Jannary 5, 1821, and was there engaged as a planter, his principal farming prodnct being tobacco. There, in 1846, he was married to Eliza Ann Duckwiler, daughter of Isaac and Flora Dnckwiler, and they became the parents of the following children: Mary, William I., Sarah, Flora, Knolton, John, Charles, Decatnr, Frank, Margaret, Lucretia, Samnel, Joseph, James, Rosetta and Emma. Mr. Greenwood came to Cass County, Ill., in 1852 with his brother and brother-in-law, and located at Chandlerville, where he worked at the carpenter trade for some time before taking up agriculture, after which he continned a tiller of the soil during the remainder of his active life and died at Philadelphia, Ill., November 21, 1899, his wife, who had been born August 5, 1828, passing away September 21, 1899. They were members of the Dunkard church. During the Civil war Mr. Greenwood was drafted into the Union service, but was able to secure his discharge for the sum of $600, by reason of an agreement between the church, as its tenets oppose war, and the government.

William I. Greenwood was a child of four years when he accompanied his parents to Cass County, and here his edncation was secured in the district schools. Reared to agricultural pursuits, he was an agriculturist dnring all the active years of his life, and is still the owner of a tract of ten acres, at the city limits. Here he is enjoying the comforts that his life of indnstry has brought him, and is surrounded by his devoted family and a large circle of appreciative friends. On Jannary 11, 1877, Mr. Greenwood was married to Miss Mary Jane Wright, danghter of James and Cecelia Jane (Griffin) Wright. Ten children have been born to this union; an infant, deceased; Oscar; Dolly, Bertha and Millard, all deceased; Earl; William; Ruth; Cecelia A. and Marie.

James Wright, father of Mrs. Greenwood, was born July 8, 1828, in Kentucky, and died in Aprih 1904, at Wichita, Kan. He was married in Cass County May 1, 1851, to Cecelia Jane Griffin, born October 24, 1831, who died January 4, 1894, and they became the parents of the following children: Cyrus, deceased; Cecelia Jane, Jasper, Eliza, Elizabeth, Ellen, Alice, Albert and Ida. The family is connected with the Baptist church.

GREVE, Henry, now living retired at Beardstown, but formerly one of the enterprising business men of Cass County, is entitled to the confidence and respect of his fellow-townsmen for he has earned such regard. He was born in Hanover, Germany, May 20, 1844. When twenty-two years old he started from his native land, and on September 28, 1888, he landed in New York City, after a voyage of ten weeks on the ocean. Being a cigar maker, he worked at his trade for some months in New York, having joined his brother, who had come to that city in 1865 and was engaged in the same line. However, as he had some friends at Beardstown, Ill., he decided to join them at that point, and on April 2, 1867, traveled as far as Peoria by railroad, and from there went down the Illinois River to Beardstown. Upon his arrival he opened a cigar factory on east Fourth street, but in the fall of that year moved to Main street, where he continued in business until 1873, when he built a fine two-story brick store at No. 113 W. Main street. There he built up a large business, manufacturing many brands of cigars that attained considerable popularity. He took his brother Antone into partnership with him in 1876, and they continued together until 1880, when the latter embarked in a business of his own in the same line, and it is still in existence. In May, 1913, Mr. Greve sold his factory to his son, W. F. Greve, and retired.

On July 23, 1867, Mr. Greve married Anna Reller, born in Hanover, Germany, who came to the United States at the same time as her husband. Their children have been as follows: Louisa, who is the widow of John Stoker, lives at Twelfth and Monroe streets, Beardstown, Mr. Stoker having lost his life through an accident, March 16, 1904; Carrie, who died April 9, 1900; Henry, who is connected with the First State Bank of Beardstown; John; Anna, who is at home; Fred, who is a railroad engineer; William F., who is conducting the cigar business; Emma, who is Mrs. Edward Howard of Beardstown; and Hilda, who is Mrs. William Stulkel, of Beardstown. The Lutheran church holds his membership, and he is the historian of the Central Illinois District of his church, which is composed of twenty-one counties. While a Democrat in politics, he has never sought or desired office. He belongs to the A. O. U. W. of Beardstown, and has been a dominent figure in it.

GREVE, William F., a cigar manufacturer and cigar merchant at Beardstown, is a descendant of German-American people who did so much to make Cass County one of the leading sections of Illinois. He is one of the respected residents and substantial business men of Beardstown. Mr. Greve was born at Beardstown, December 29, 1882, a son of Henry Greve, born in Germany, a cigar manufacturer and tobacco merchant. A sketch of Henry Greve is given in this work.

William F. Greve was educated in the schools of Beardstown and the Chicago Metropolitan Business College, attending the latter institution for a year. Learning the cigar-making trade in his father's factory, he worked as an employe until May, 1913, when he bought his father's business and has since continued to operate it, making a success of his undertaking. In politics, Mr. Greve is a Democrat. He has not desired public office. In fraternal matters he belongs to Beardstown Lodge, I. O. O. F. No. 16; Beardstown Lodge, B. P. O. E. No. 1007, and Beardstown Lodge of Moose No. 985. An

honorable business man, Mr. Greve deserves the success which has attended his efforts.

GRIDLEY, Charles A.—The members of the legal fraternity of Cass County are notably men of superior intelligence and their reputation for ability is well merited, and many practice in all of the courts. A representative member of the Cass County bar who is an honor to his profession, and to Virginia as well, is the Hon. Charles A. Gridley, who has not only carried on a general law practice for years, but has filled ably and satisfactorily the several important offices to which he has been elected.

Charles A. Gridley was born at Virginia, Ill., January 10, 1874, a son of James Norman and Frances (Hill) Gridley. After attending the public schools of Virginia, he took a course at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., and later went to the University of Michigan, from which he was graduated from both the literary and law departments in 1896. Returning to Virginia, he entered his father's office, and has been engaged in a general law practice ever since, specializing on abstract work. In 1900 he was elected state's attorney for Cass County, and was re-elected to that office in 1904. Prior to this, he had served as city attorney from 1898 to 1900. He and his father own the only set of abstract records of Cass County.

In April, 1911, Mr. Gridley married Dorothy Plahn, a daughter of George and Jane (Loosley) Plahn. Mr. and Mrs. Gridley have no children. His standing as an attorney and citizen is unquestioned, and he has many friends not only among the general public, but in the fraternal order of Knights of Pythias, of which he is a charter member, and was first chancellor commander. He belongs also to the Maccabees and the Elks at Jacksonville.

HACKMAN, Edward Franklin, for many years one of the leading agriculturalists of Cass County, is now living retired, his two sons conducting his homestead. He was born in township 17, range 11, this county, November 28, 1855, a son of John Frederick and Angeline (Meyer) Hackman. The parents were natives of Hanover, Germany. The grandparents, Gerhardt and Mary Hackman, came to Cass County, Ill., in 1834. The maternal grandfather died in Cass County in 1835, about three months from the time he came here from Germany. The two families settled in the vicinity of Arenzville, first entering land from the government, and later adding to their holdings by purchase. After the marriage of John Frederick Hackman and Angeline Meyer, they located two miles from Arenzville, in township 17, range 11. There John Frederick secured about 570 acres of land and operated it until his death in 1898. His widow lived until 1908, when she too, passed away. Their children were as follows: Wilhelmina, who is the widow of Henry Winklehake, of Beardstown; Herman W., who is of Beardstown; Sophia, who is Mrs. M. L. Kors, of Beatrice, Nebr.; Matilda, who is of Beardstown; Edward Franklin; Sarah, who is Mrs. Philip Jokisch, of Bluff Springs, this county; Henry F., who is of Lincoln, Nebr.; and Emma, who died at the age of twenty years.

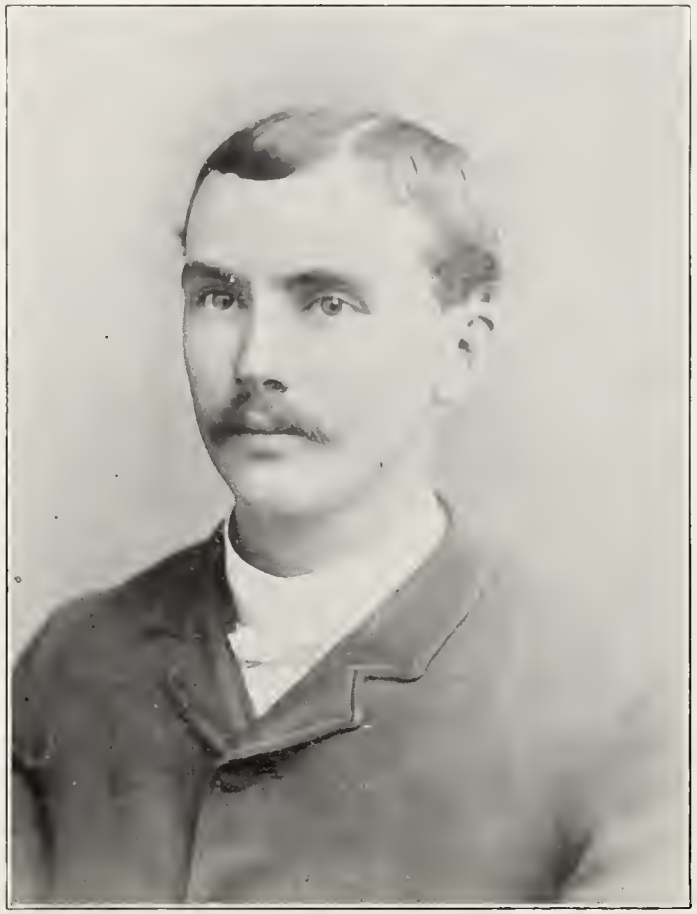
Edward Franklin Hackman resided with his parents until his marriage, when he moved to his present farm of 240 acres on sections 23 and 26, township 17, range 12 in Arenzville Precinct, about 220 acres of which are under cultivation, the balance being in pasturage and timber. Mr. Hackman carries on general farming. This property was originally a portion of the homestead, but in 1890 Mr. Hackman purchased it from his father. In the spring of 1914 he retired from active participation in the farm work.

On March 8, 1882, Mr. Hackman married Amelia Paulina Jokisch, born in Bluff Springs, this county, March 27, 1859, a daughter of Gotthelf and Elenora (Carls) Jokisch, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Hackman became the parents of the following children: Elmer F., who is of Chicago; Orville E., who is of Cass County; Cora M., who is Mrs. Lorenzo Burrus, of Cass County; Morton H., and Earl R., who are at home. Mr. Hackman was educated in the schools of his district, and during his mature years has served this district as a school director and has been treasurer of the board. For three years he was district commissioner. In politics he is a Republican. The Methodist church holds his membership. A man of sincere purposes, he has always done what he considered his full duty, and stands very high in public esteem.

HACKMAN, Louis C., one of the substantial and representative retired farmers of Cass County, was, at one time, one of the leading agriculturalists of his locality, and has done his part in the upbuilding of his community. He was born in this county, October 12, 1846, a son of William and Elizabeth (Meyer) Hackman, natives of Hanover, Germany, he born in 1820, a son of John E. and Maria (Struve) Hackman.

In coming to the United States, John E. Hackman made the trip on a sailing vessel which consumed seven weeks and two days in the voyage. He landed at old Castle Garden, N. Y., from whence he went to Buffalo, from there crossed Lake Erie and landed at Cleveland, Ohio. From that city by canal he reached the Ohio River, and voyaged down it to Cairo, Ill., then traveled up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, and then up the Illinois River to Beardstown. Following his arrival in Cass County, he bought 120 acres in township 12, range 11, but before they located upon it, he was taken sick and died. The grandmother of Louis C. Hackman then moved on the farm with her children, but after some years, she went to live with a daughter, Mrs. Mary Bushman of Beardstown, where she died at the age of seventy-two years. The children were: William, Fred, Gerhardt, Henry and Mary.

William Hackman grew to manhood in this



Edward Schall.



Anna Schall.

county and became the owner of 500 acres of land, still owning this property at the time of his death, January 30, 1905. He married Elizabeth Meyer, who died February 16, 1905. The children of these parents were: Louis C., Mrs. Lucinda Heierman of Morgan County, Ill., Matilda, Louisa and Edwin.

Louis C. Hackman lived with his parents until they died, and was manager of the homestead from 1878 until his acquisition of it. In March, 1880, he invested in land in Richardson County, Neb., and kept adding to it until he had 480 acres. In 1908 he sold 160 acres, and the balance in 1912. Another operation was in 1899, when he bought 120 acres, and rented it until the spring of 1913, when he sold it. He owns the old original homestead of 140 acres, to which he added twenty acres. In addition to his other holdings, he owns 700 acres of land in Pike County, eighty acres of which is in pasture, and the balance under cultivation. At present Mr. Hackman is living two miles northwest of Arenzville.

On April 1, 1880, Mr. Hackman was married to Amelia S. Kors, born at Beardstown, October 22, 1853, a daughter of Frederick and Margaret (Fellner) Kors, natives of Germany. Mrs. Hackman died February 20, 1912. They had the following children: William E., of Pike County, Ill., who married Nettie Divers; Oliver W., who is at home and conducts the homestead; and Zelma L., who is at home. Mr. Hackman is a Methodist and has served his church as a trustee since 1908. He is a Democrat, and from 1880 to 1889 was a commissioner of Cass County.

HALL, J. W., senior member of the firm of Hall & Duchardt, manufacturers of all kinds of harness and saddles to order, as well as dealers in all varieties of heavy and light harness, is one of the substantial business men of Virginia. The firm are located in the Downing building, and own the only power manufacturing plant in Cass County that is operated by electricity. The firm was formed in October, 1910, and the connections then made have continued profitably ever since.

J. W. Hall was born in Morgan County, Ill., February 14, 1855, a son of James and Ellen (Phifer) Hall. His educational training was obtained in Morgan and Cass counties, and his practical education was obtained when he learned the harnessmaking trade at Chandlersville and Springfield, Ill. He went to the latter city in 1877, and in addition to working at his trade, he has turned his attention to several other lines of endeavor, having been in the real-estate business and also handled horses. For two years he acted as a guard at the Federal prison at Ft. Leavenworth, Kas. In 1909, Mr. Hall was elected a justice of the peace, and, re-elected to the same office in 1913, still fills it. He is a member of the Presbyterian church.

On December 1, 1881, Mr. Hall was married to Emma Jackson, a daughter of Milton Jackson, who was killed at the battle of Chickamauga, during the Civil war, and his wife, Louisa (Yeck) Jackson, who was born in Cass County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have had five children: Claud W., who is in the National Home, at Leavenworth, Kas.; William A., who is working in the ice plant of the same institution; Verna B., who is Mrs. Frank Frame, of Bonner Springs, Kas.; Ethel B., who is Mrs. Roy B. Slotts, of Bonner Springs, Kas., where her husband is cashier of the First National Bank; and Sheldon, who is a high school student of Bonner Springs, Kas.

HALL, Robert.—This chapter contains an interesting record of the career of one whose experience in Cass County has been contemporaneous with the advent of the pioneer settlers of western Illinois, and whose recollections are coincident with the period when this region had hardly begun to emerge from the solitude of a wilderness.

Robert Hall, one of the most extensive land owners and cattle raisers in Cass County, was born June 19, 1835, in the town of Virginia, Ill., and was the first white child born in Cass County, the event occurring in the little frame structure which his parents occupied on their arrival in this region, and which is still standing, being known as the first dwelling put up in the district. He is a son of Dr. Henry Hammond Hall, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, who emigrated to America at an early age, and first settled in Accomac County, Va. There, in 1818, he was married to Ann H. P. Beard, a daughter of Matthew and Ann H. P. Beard. On April 3, 1835, they came to Illinois, and were one of the first families to settle in Cass County. They had spent the winter in Philadelphia, whence they came down the Ohio River, and then up to Beardstown, moving thence to Virginia, Ill., where Dr. Hall engaged in merchandizing.

The Hall family were and are connected with the Presbyterian church, Mr. Hall's mother belonging to the Cumberland Presbyterian branch. Dr. Hall encouraged the first churches in the place, and was the first to establish a store in Virginia, bringing mercantile goods with him when he came. He was a physician by profession, but practiced only in urgent cases. Dr. Hall also erected the first Cass County courthouse and jail, at that time a part of Morgan County, and the Doctor, by reason of his superior intelligence and his technical culture, was an authority on many matters throughout the whole region, his influence being great. Extended mention of Dr. Hall will be found in this work. He was born in 1798, and his wife in 1799, the former dying in 1847, and the latter, in 1880, aged 81 years. Their children were as follows: John, John second, Henry, Henry second, Eliza, Eliza second, and Anna Pitt, Robert and Jane.

Robert Hall was educated in the subscription schools, obtaining but a few months of instruction in a year. He herded the cattle on the prairie, and the grass, in the hot months, fre-

quently caught fire, and serious trouble followed. Mr. Hall began farming in 1851, and followed agricultural pursuits and trading throughout his life. In 1883 he moved into Virginia, where he has since maintained his residence.

In 1859, in Kansas, Mr. Hall was married to Anna D. McClure, who died July 24, 1892, a daughter of Samuel and Louisa (Graft) McClure. They had four children, as follows: Louisa A., deceased; Eliza P., Roberta G. (Mrs. W. B. Stribling) of Virginia, Ill., and Henry Samuel, who married Florence Dunaway, of Denver, Colo. The second marriage of Mr. Hall took place June 23, 1896, to Ida Lee James. She was a daughter of John W. and Catherine (Williamson) James, of Virginia. Mrs. Hall was born in North Carolina, and came to Illinois when a child.

Mr. Hall has had, at one time, on his farm more than 1000 head of cattle, and is one of the largest land owners in Cass County. He was one of the principal organizers of the Centennial National Bank of Virginia, which was chartered February 24, 1876, with a capital of $50,000, with the following officers: president, John A. Petefish; vice president, A. J. Angier; cashier, John Woods; directors, A. J. Angier, John A. Petefish, Daniel Biddlecome, T. J. Crum, J. H. Bates, A. Struble, Robert Hall, W. L. Black and Thomas Dunaway. Mr. Hall also helped to organize the Virginia Coal Company, and sold the land for the use of the Agricultural Association as a fair ground. He participated in the organization of this body and accepted a directorship, and for many years acted as superintendent.

It may be said of Robert Hall as his prolonged and useful life develops towards its culmination, that he has been identified with more important enterprises than any other citizen of his section.

HAMILTON, John W.—One of the most respected residents of Virginia, Cass County, Ill., passed away, and one of the most valuable citizens was lost to the community, when John W. Hamilton died, on November 19, 1906. He was long an industrious and thrifty farmer, and did much to promote the agricultural growth and prosperity, and to enhance the civic and moral welfare of the portion of the county with which his useful life was identified. Many are the friends who remember Mr. Hamilton with pleasant recollections of his kindness as a neighbor, and his trustworthiness in the relationships of everyday intercourse.

John W. Hamilton was born in the state of Indiana, July 30, 1845, and was a son of James and Melinda Hamilton, natives of Virginia. By trade, the father was a cooper, but he also followed farming, and spent a busy career in Indiana and Illinois. In his youth John W. Hamilton attended the common schools of his neighborhood, and on reaching maturity, applied himself to farming. Thus he continued for several years, prospering in all his undertakings, and through patient toil and judicious management, gained a competency. He was a soldier in the Civil war having enlisted for 100 days in 1864, in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and being honorably discharged December 15, 1864. He was identified with the G. A. R., belonging to the post in Virginia.

On March 26, 1884, Mr. Hamilton was married to Elizabeth Williamson, born in Jacksonville, Ill., a daughter of Thomas and Nancy Needam Williamson, natives of England. After his marriage, Mr. Hamilton moved to Vernon County, Mo., where he owned a farm. This he disposed of after operating it for eighteen months, and returned to Cass County. Here he carried on farming until 1904, when he abandoned agricultural pursuits, and retiring from active life, established his home in Virginia. His estimable widow still occupies an attractive residence in the city where his last days were spent, and where she has numerous devoted friends. She is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which her lamented husband officiated as trustee and as steward. In political matters, Mr. Hamilton, although not seeking public preferment, always acted with the Republican party.

HANSMEIER, Simon.—Among the old time residents of Cass County, Illinois, whose personality still keeps fresh in mind the recollections of the Civil war, and make them especially interesting characters to the patriotic element of a later generation, is Simon Hansmeier, who is widely known, and well liked wherever his acquaintance extends.

Simon Hansmeier, agent of the Beardstown Overland Bridge, is a native of Prussia, Germany, where his birth took place September 13, 1842. With his parents, Henry and Louisa (Hauer) Hansmeier, he came to America when but six years old. The family located in St. Louis, Mo., in 1848, when the cholera was prevalent there and the mother died of the disease. The father, with his children, Fred, Henry August and Simon, then went to Wisconsin, where he married again, one daughter being the issue of the second union, who left home when she became of age, and was never afterwards heard from.

At the age of fourteen years Simon Hansmeier came to Beardstown, Ill., and was employed by farmers until the commencement of the Civil war. On August 6, 1862, at Beardstown, he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was a part of the Army of the Mississippi, and served until the end of the war. For a long time the regiment to which he was attached was in pursuit of Gen. Price and then came the battle of Jackson, where he was engaged. He fought at the Siege of Vicksburg, and on June 10, 1864, was captured by the Confederates at the battle of Guntown, Miss., and was thrown into Andersonville prison, where he suffered incredible hardships until the close of the war.

When released, by reason of his weakened condition through filthy surroundings and hunger, he was carried out on a stretcher. His torture often from thirst had been beyond description, but after a time in their imprisonment, a fine bubbling spring burst forth, between the dead line and the stockade, which was hailed by the feverish soldiers as a direct act of Providence. It afforded an ample drinking supply, and saved many lives. After the close of the war Mr. Hansmeier returned to Beardstown, and on recovering his strength applied himself again to farming.

On January 10, 1866, Mr. Hansmeier was married to Mary Cremps, a daughter of Casper Cremps. Six children resulted from this union, as follows: Henry, of Canton, Ill.; Emma (Mrs. John Ruple), of Beardstown; John, of Peoria; Frank, of Canton, Ill.; Tillie, at home with her father, and George, of Beardstown. The family residence is at No. 407 West Fourth street, Beardstown, to which place the father moved in 1888 on quitting farm work, although until 1904 he combined farm and team work. After that he served for one year on the Beardstown police force, and then was appointed agent of the Beardstown Overland Bridge. He is a member of the G. A. R., McLean Post, No. 97, of Beardstown, in which he officiates as junior vice commander.

The family are members of the Fourth Lutheran church of Beardstown. The father and his wife, son and daughter are all fraternally affiliated with the K. & L. of H. Mr. Hansmeier is highly respected, and has a wide circle of friends throughout Cass County.

HARBISON, Robert F.—Some of the well known men of Cass County, after engaging for a time in agricultural pursuits, have moved from the country and located at one or other of the towns within its confines and there embarked in other lines of business where they have attained equal prominence, thus proving that their abilities are not confined to any one industry. One of these men is Robert F. Harbison, an implement dealer at Chandlerville. He was born in Cass County, Ill., August 29, 1872. His father followed farming in Cass County.

Robert F. Harbison attended the public schools of his district, and afterward was a farmer for some years. He then was on the road for ten years as a commercial traveler and then established his present implement business at Chandlerville. After locating here he began taking an active interest in local politics and was elected alderman from his ward and served for two years in the city council. The Modern Woodmen of America and the Masons have in him a faithful member.

Mr. Harbison was married to Daisy M. Eads, who was born March 4, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Harbison have had two children: Lela May Boensell and Edward F. Harbison.

HARRIS, Merton Henry.—The wonderful increase in the number of the kind of amusement places, in our cities, which cater to the patronage of people of moderate means, and furnish a superior quality of entertainment for a minimum rate of admission, is one of the marvels of the present day. It is not too much to say that the projectors of the higher grade of such moderate priced exhibitions should be looked upon as public benefactors for, by amusing and edifying the members of whole families in attendance they stimulate the virtue of domesticity and promote the cause of sobriety and economy.

Representative of this class is the Princess theatre, Beardstown, Cass County, and its owner and former manager was Merton H. Harris, of this city. The Princess was built by Mr. Harris, who completed the structure October 19, 1911. In dimensions it is 52x115 feet, and 60 feet high, having a large stage space sufficient to accommodate any high grade troupe. The seating capacity, including the balcony is 631 and the ventilation is furnished by the American Blower System, which affords 18,000 cubic feet of fresh air for every minute in the building. All the material of construction is steel and the curtain is asbestos, making the auditorium as nearly fireproof as possible, while the building is the first of its kind in Illinois to be lighted by indirect system. The curtain was painted by Sosman & Landis, of Chicago, with beautiful scenic effects. The exits are six in number—four single and two double.

Mr. Harris has been in the amusement business since 1892. In 1907, with L. W. Goodell, he built the Gem theatre in Beardstown. This was first constructed for pictures only, but at a later period, Mr. Goodell added a stage. It was one of the first houses in the state intended solely for pictures. Mr. Harris sold his interest in the Gem in the spring of 1911 to Mr. Goodell. Before his connection with it (in 1893) he had bought the old Opera House and, together with Deppe Bros., and T. K. Coudet, had remodeled it, later selling it. On July 1, 1914, the Beardstown Amusement Company took over both theatres, and Mr. Goodell is now manager, Mr. Harris retiring from the active management.

Merton H. Harris was born in Cass County, Ill., March 5th, 1864, and is a son of John H. and Phoebe (Padon) Harris. In youth he received his mental training in the public schools, and formed an early business connection with Colonel Brown, of Jacksonville. On May 23, 1889, he was united in marriage with Emma L. Leason, a daughter of John and Julia Leason, and they had four children: Todd (deceased), Myrtle, Vidah, and Leason (deceased). In religious belief, the family of Mr. Harris is connected with the Methodist Episcopal church.

The fraternal affiliation of Mr. Harris is with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodman of America, in both of which orders he has passed all the chairs, also representing both in the Grand Lodge. He is popular throughout a wide circle of acquaintance, and developed his theatrical enterprises into very prosperous concerns.

HASKELL, Charles I.—Any detailed narrative tracing the tenure of many of the property holdings in the first farming settlement of what is now the Middle West, naturally leads to a review of the transitions undergone by them since the pioneer days, when the entire region was just emerging from primeval solitude. Among the old farming properties in western Illinois transmitted during the three past generations is that belonging to Charles I. Haskell, who was born in Virginia, Cass County, September 15, 1845, and is a son of John E. and Emeline (Brady) Haskell.

John E. Haskell was a native of Thomaston, Me., and died in Cass County, Ill., in 1876. He came to Cass County in 1835, making his first journey by canal-boat and sleigh. The second time Mr. Haskell came to Cass County, he rode a pony, with a big New Foundland dog for company, and just east of the then village of Princeton worked in a mill for Beggs & Brady. Later he bought this mill and moved it, in 1838, to his eleven acres of land which he had bought. This eleven acres of land was on the south side of the city square in Virginia, on which he pastured the cattle that did the work of treading for his mill. Subsequently this ground was subdivided into building lots and sold by his son, Charles I. Haskell. In this, which was the first woolen mill in the state, he carried on carding and weaving until 1865, when he disposed of the mill. He had learned the wool carding and weaving business before coming to the West.

The marriage of John E. Haskell and Emeline Brady took place at Virginia, in Cass County, Ill. She was born near Louisville, Ky., March 4, 1826, and was brought to Cass County in 1835, and died October 22, 1901, at the home of her brother, John J. Brady, in Pomona, Cal. Her remains were brought home and committed to the earth in the Virginia cemetery. The children of John E. and Emeline (Brady) Haskell were: Lydia, who died in infancy; Charles I.; William E., whose home is in Peabody, Kas.; Adelia M. (Mrs. D. M. Duffield), of Springfield, Ill.; and Harry, John and Edward, who died in infancy.

In political affairs, John E. Haskell took an active part, first as an old-line Whig and afterwards as a Democrat, becoming a Democrat at the time of the Lincoln-Douglas campaign. For forty years he held the office of justice of the peace, never in all that time having a decision reversed. Short in stature and of portly form, he was known among lawyers throughout the state and elsewhere especially in Supreme court circles, and was familiarly called "Pud" Haskell. After disposing of his mill, he relinquished all business effort, giving himself entirely to the duties pertaining to his official position.

Charles I. Haskell grew to manhood under the paternal roof, and received his early education in the public schools of the neighborhood. Beginning at the age of twelve years, he assisted his father in the mill, and continued a helper until he enlisted for service in the Civil war, January 4, 1865, in Company K, Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being assigned to the Sixteenth army corps. He served nearly a year, and, although not under fire, was a witness of the battles of Fort Blakeley and Spanish Fort while going down the Mississippi River. The boat that carried them, the James Watson, struck a snag and sank, at the mouth of White River, March 3, 1865. Mr. Haskell was injured in the back, and was taken to a New Orleans hospital, where he was confined for some time. His regiment was encamped on Bayou Beff on its way to Mobile, and was discharged at Vicksburg, January 1, 1866. Mr. Haskell proceeded to Springfield, where he received his final papers and was paid off and returned to Virginia, Cass County. He is a member of Stephenson Post No. 30 G. A. R. of Springfield. For about a year afterward Mr. Haskell was not very busy, but in 1867 he became a clerk in the general store of Stephenson & Bergen, for whom he worked until 1869. In that year, together with Charles Gatton, he bought out the grocery department of Stephenson & Bergen, and later sold to Dunaway & Raybourn. Afterwards he went to the East, spending a year in traveling and visiting in the vicinity of the old Haskell home in New England. After returning to the West, he clerked for Joseph Stephenson, at Carlinville, for about a year, engaging then in the hotel business at Carlinville. This he disposed of in 1873 and then went to Decatur, where he was employed in the old Illinois Central Depot Hotel until the spring of 1875.

On May 25, 1875, at Virginia, Ill., Mr. Haskell was married to Mary C. Cole, who died December 17, 1897, and was buried at Virginia. She was a daughter of Robert and Kathryn (Soule) Cole. They had one child, John R., of Pittsfield, Ill., a wholesale tobacco clerk.

Politically, Mr. Haskell is a Democrat. He was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland and served as such during both Cleveland administrations. He held the office of deputy sheriff of Cass County eight years, four years under Sheriff Widmayar and four years under Sheriff F. E. Shweer. For thirteen years he served as alderman of the Third Ward of his native town. Fraternally, Mr. Haskell is a charter member of the M. W. A. and has been long connected with the I. O. O. F. He belongs to the Christian church, of which he is a trustee. After a long, industrious, honorable and useful life, Mr. Haskell is now living in retirement, respected by all who know him, and in the quiet enjoyment of the competence he has so worthily acquired.

William Haskell, a great-uncle of Charles J. Haskell, introduced the first chain pump ever brought into the state of Illinois.

HENDRICKER, Charles F., was born in South Beardstown, Ill., June 14, 1850, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Kuhl) natives of Saxony, Germany, who came to Cass County about the



Ora Shankland and Wife

year 1830 with Christian Knhl, the grandfather. The parents married in Beardstown, and settled along the Illinois River where there were five children born, and then moved to another farm in Cass County, where the mother died in 1867. Frederick and Elizabeth Hendricker had the following children: Conrad and George, both deceased; Christian, of Quincy, Ill.; Mary (Mrs. George Valentine), of Burlington, Iowa; Charles T.; Elizabeth (Mrs. Andrew Councilman), of Chicago; and Caroline (Mrs. John Schuchman), of Wichita, Kan.

Charles F. Hendricker remained with his parents up to the time of his marriage, having attended the public schools of Beardstown for some time, and was with his father at the time of the latter's death. He was united in marriage September 21, 1871, with Sophie Amelia Jockisch, born in township 17, range 11, a daughter of Angust and Snsan Jockisch, he of Germany, she a native of Pennsylvania. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hendricker have been as follows: Frank, deceased; Amelia L. (Mrs. George Eads), of Mason County, Ill.; Arthur, deceased; Sarah, who died in infancy; Mrs. Ida Henry, of Cass Connty; Elmer, of Pike County, Ill.; Bessie, of Carlinville, Ill.; Hattie (Mrs. Andrew Larsen), of Havana, Ill.; Julia, at home; Rudolph, of Cass Connty; Ida (Mrs. Felix Krohe); and Lydia.

Mr. Hendricker resided on the old home place after his marriage for about five years, then moved to Virginia, Ill., bought a farm and lived there six years. Then he sold out and moved to Sherman County, Kas., where he purchased 160 acres of land. Eight months afterwards he sold this and moved to St. Charles, Mo., and following this for some time went about looking for a satisfactory location on which to settle, and in 1890, bought an eighty acre farm, where he has since lived. To this he has added until it contains 270 acres, 108 acres in the home place being under cnltivation, and sixty-two acres in bottom land. He is a large raiser of melons.

Mr. Hendricker is a member of the Pentecost Nazarene church and is snperintendent of the Sunday school. He votes with the Prohibition party.

HERRMANN, George F., who is the owner of 360 acres of fine land in township 18, range 9 n. in Cass County, Ill., and is considered among the foremost grain farmers of the township, is a native of Illinois, born in Mason County, December 6, 1858. Mr. Herrmann is of German extraction, his parents, Frederick and Catherine (Smith) Herrmann having been born in Germany, and both emigrated to the United States in early life and located at Beardstown, Ill., where they were snbsequently married. Moving from there to Bath, Ill., Frederick Herrmann opened a shoemaking shop, which he conducted several years, then purchased a tract of prairie land east of Bath, and improved it. This he cultivated for ten years, and then sold and moved west of Medora, Ill., where he bought 360 acres, on which he was engaged in farming for twenty years. At the end of that period he moved to Cass County, Ill., township 18, range 9 n., and bonght 160 acres of improved land, to which he later added 240 acres, now owned by George F., with whom he resided during the later part of his life. Frederick Herrmann was born in 1824 and died in 1902; his wife died in January, 1889. The children of Frederick and Catherine Herrmann were as follows: Leonard, of Mason Connty, Ill.; Henry, deceased; Katherine (Mrs. Lonis Roloff), of Havana, Ill., Josephine (Mrs. William Kirchner), deceased; and George F.

George F. Herrmann attended the public schools of Mason County, Ill., in his youth, and remained at home until his marriage on March 2, 1882. On that date he was wedded to Katherine Mohlenfruck, who was born in Beardstown, Ill. After his marriage, George F. Herrmann farmed for two years in Mason Connty, then moved to his father's farm of 240 acres in Cass County, which was willed to him, and to which 120 acres has been added by pnrchase, the whole being in one body. About 250 acres of this is under cultivation, the remainder being in pasture and timber. The cnltivated portion is devoted to grain raising.

In politics, George F. Herrmann is identified with the Republican party. His religious connection is with the Lutheran church of Chandlerville, in which he has officiated as a steward since 1904. In all respects, Mr. Herrmann is a first-class man and a most worthy citizen, and his wife a most estimable lady. Both are much respected, and have numerous friends.

HESS, John Henry, a prosperous farmer and stockraiser of section 15, township 18, range 12, is one of the substantial men of Cass County. He was born in Germany, July 17, 1869, a son of Henry and Catherine (Eckstein) Hess, natives of Germany. A history of the Hess family is given elsewhere in this work.

John Henry Hess attended school in Germany, and from childhood worked on farms. When he was twelve years old he was brought to the United States by his aunt who accompanied him to Beardstown, where he joined his father who had previously located there, and he has remained in Cass County ever since. When the father married a second time, John Henry gave his step-mother obedience and care, and lived at home nntil his marriage. He now owns forty-six and three-fourth acres of land and rents eighty acres more, all of which he operates and with good results. He has always been a Republican, but has never sought office. The German Lutheran is his church.

On November 3, 1904, Mr. Hess married Emma Elizabeth Schroeder, who was born February 10, 1885, and died April 7, 1914, a daughter of W. F. and Mary (Blnm) Schroeder, natives of Germany and Cass County, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder live at Beardstown. Mr. Hess has always been an industrious, thrifty man, and possessing a pleas-

ant, genial manner, has many friends among those with whom he is brought into contact.

HESS, Mrs. Mary, has proven in her successful work at farming and dairying that her sex is fully competent to conduct large interests and provide for those dependent upon them. Mrs. Hess was born in Germany, January 28, 1861, a daughter of Christian and Margarette (Gunder) Blum, farming people, who were born in Germany. When she was twenty-one years old, Mrs. Hess came alone to Cass County from Germany, and on May 14, 1883, married Henry Hess, who was born in Germany, May 14, 1845, a son of Henry and Catherine (Bellhour) Hess. During Mr. Hess' lifetime they lived on a farm near Concord for eighteen months; then moved to one near the Stock school in Cass County, but a year later went to Beardstown and bought a home, going then into the dairy business, but as Mr. Hess' health failed, they returned to farm life. The change did not prove beneficial, however, and he died, leaving his widow with seven children, the oldest being but ten years old. Many women would have been discouraged, for the long illness of Mr. Hess had reduced their finances, and when left a widow she had to commence at the bottom. She was brave and resourceful, however, and continued in the dairy business and engaged also in farming. As her children grew older, they gave her assistance, so that she made visible progress, and now owns a very valuable farm of 394 acres on which she still carries on farming and dairying. Mrs. Hess also owns 160 acres in the Beardstown South Drainage District. The Lutheran church holds her membership.

Mr. and Mrs. Hess had seven children, as follows: Louis C., Charles F. W., Hattie M., Frank J., Zelma M., Rudolph and Mabel E. Mrs. Hess is a very industrious and capable business woman and deserves full credit for what she has accomplished in the face of so many serious discouragements.

HIERONYMUS, Charles V., dealer in groceries, china and pianos, is one of the progressive business men of Beardstown. He has attained his present responsible position in his community through the exercise of native ability and astute business methods. He was born in Washington County, Ill., August 18, 1875, a son of Charles C. and Louisa (Neunlist) Hieronymus. The father was born in Germany and learned to be a miller in his native land. He came to the United States and prospered as a miller and became the owner of elevators. The mother was born at Okawville, Ill.

Charles V. Hieronymus began attending school at Mt. Olive, Ill., but completed his course in the Beardstown graded schools. He learned the milling trade under his father and worked at it for several years, but then invested in a grocery stock, and has been a grocer for fourteen years. Later he added the handling of china and of pianos, to meet a demand which was steadily increasing, and has made these new lines pay, through energetic and honest business methods.

In 1892, Mr. Hieronymus was married at Beardstown to Elizabeth C. Greve, born in Cass County, April 3, 1876, a daughter of Anton and Mary (Pauk) Greve, natives of Germany and of Cass County, respectively. Mr. Greve was in a cigar and tobacco business. Mr. and Mrs. Hieronymus have three children: Verna Maria, Arthur G., and Lucile Elizabeth. Mr. Hieronymus belongs to the Lutheran church. He is a Democrat but not active in politics, confining himself largely to his business affairs. His genial nature and pleasing manner have been important factors in his success, for those who know him appreciate his friendly personality and enjoy patronizing his store.

HILES, James Arthur.—A flourishing industry of Virginia, Ill., which has been developed through the energetic methods and tireless industry of its proprietor is the ice business conducted by James Arthur Hiles. A man of more than ordinary business ability he has been true to each engagement, and his standing in his community is that of a helpful and public-spirited citizen. Mr. Hiles was born at Virginia, Cass County, Ill., December 4, 1878, and is a son of James and Isabelle (Paschell) Hiles, the latter of whom was born at Virginia, Ill. The father of Mr. Hiles came to Illinois from Camden, N. J. He settled on a farm in Cass County, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until his removal in 1908, to Atlanta, Cowley County, Kan. He is a member of the order of Odd Fellows. To James Hiles and his wife were born the following children: Harry, who died in infancy; Charles and Archie, who are deceased; Nellie R., who died at the age of twenty-six years; James Arthur; Sarah Elizabeth; Franklin C., and Maggie, who died at the age of seventeen years.

James Arthur Hiles received his education in the public schools, following which he took up the vocation of farming. After about six years he returned to Virginia and embarked in a livery business, but two years later disposed of that interest and went to Carney, Lincoln County, Okla., where he spent four years in farming, and subsequently went to Kansas and was engaged for a time in farming at Burlington. Later he sold his western interests and returned to Virginia, where he has since prospered as the proprietor of an ice business. His ice houses are 80x100 feet in dimensions, and have a capacity of 1500 tons. Mr. Hiles is a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen, and has held several offices of importance in his lodge. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church.

On December 20, 1899, Mr. Hiles was married to Nellie G. Willett, a daughter of Taylor and Mary (Ratliff) Willett, and they have one son: James Leo, a student in the public schools of Virginia.

HILL, Chancey, who has won the approval of his neighbors by his farming methods, is one of the leading agriculturalists of Cass County and his fine farm of 144 acres is one of the best in this section. He resides on section 9, township 18, range 8, but was born about seven miles west of Chandlerville, this county, February 25, 1854, a son of Amasa and Mary Ann (Streeter) Hill, natives of Ohio. Amasa Hill came to Cass County in 1842, and after locating at Beardstown began making wagons for a man named Fisher, and after a year with him, Mr. Hill and his brother started a wagon shop of their own and continued in this business for some years. He then began farming and spent the balance of his life as a Cass County agriculturalist.

Chancey Hill attended the schools of his district and was taught farming by his father. He knows nothing about his maternal grandparents as his mother met with the loss of both her parents when a child. It is known that the Streeter family was coming from Ohio to Illinois, in a covered wagon, and had neared Springfield, when Mr. Streeter died and was buried by some strangers. Mrs. Streeter died later. Other members of the Hill family were: Ellie, deceased; Amanda, William H., and Horace, deceased.

Chancey Hill was married in Cass County January 1, 1878, to Lucy F. Schaeffer, a daughter of Henry and Sophia (Stone) Schaeffer, natives of Sangamon County, Ill., where Mr. Schaeffer was a stockfeeder and farmer. He died in Fremont County, Iowa, and she in Atchinson County, Mo. There were eight children in the Schaeffer family: George, Charles, Sophronia, Sophia, Della, Myrtle, Channing and Lucy F., now Mrs. Hill. Mrs. Hill was born May 4, 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have no children. Until 1888, Mr. Hill farmed in Cass County, but in that year went to Iowa and continued to farm and feed cattle for twenty years, then returned to Cass County, and located on the old farm, where he is engaged in the same line of farming and feeding cattle and hogs. Mr. Hill is a quiet, unostentatious man who is able to accomplish much without making any fuss about it. He is a Democrat in his political convictions, while the Cumberland Presbyterian church holds the religious membership of himself and wife.

HINES, Harrison.—Besides a long and active identification with industrial affairs at Beardstown, Cass County, and in addition to taking a leading part, for many years, in all that pertains to the fulfillment of civic and social duties imposed on him by the community, Harrison Hines is entitled to especial mention as one of the few honored survivors of the gallant host who served their country in the field from the beginning to the end of the Civil war. Few, indeed, of the names herein contained are entitled to more distinction.

Harrison Hines was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., February 19, 1841, a son of Henry and Betsy (Howard) Hines, the father a native of Rhode Island, the mother of New York. Henry Hines, a carpenter by trade, located in Aurora, Ill., in the spring of 1843, and worked as a carpenter until the time of his death, about 1884. His wife passed away in 1878. When he was but ten years old, Harrison Hines began to do farm work, attending the district schools of the neighborhood at intervals, and later, became a pupil in the Aurora Business College. His life passed on without notable incident until April 6, 1861, when he enlisted in Company K, Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and he remained with the army of the Tennessee until the end of the struggle. He participated in the battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh and the siege of Corinth, and was also in the siege of Vicksburg. He volunteered his services in running the blockade of Vicksburg on the steamer Anglo Saxon, which was successful. For this brave feat he justly cherishes a letter of commendation from General Grant, in which he was granted a thirty days' furlough with transportation home and return. At Shiloh, Mr. Hines received a gunshot wound in his left leg, and at Vicksburg his head and right arm were lacerated by a piece of shell. He took part in Sherman's march to the sea, and the last battle in which he was engaged was that of Bentonville, N. C. He marched in the grand review at Washington, D. C., and was honorably discharged from the service July 15, 1865. Returning to Illinois, he went to work as a carpenter, engaging with the C. B. & Q. Railroad Company, and within two weeks was made a foreman. In 1869 he was transferred to Burlington, Iowa, and after remaining there two years, was stationed at Ottumwa, Iowa, where he stayed until August, 1880, when he was transferred to Beardstown, Ill., where he has charge of a force of mechanics averaging 200 men.

On February 9, 1869, in Chicago, Mr. Hines was united in marriage with Nettie Thronson, a native of Norway, and a daughter of Andrew Thronson. They have had the following children: Russell, of Laramie, Wyo.; Myrtle M. and Edgar, both deceased; Nettie (Mrs. Victor Schmitt), of Beardstown; Augustus, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Grace (Mrs. B. F. Miller), of Laramie, Wyo.; Mabel, a teacher in the public schools; and Ralph M., at home.

Politically, Mr. Hines has taken an independent course in late years. He has rendered efficient public service, having been president of the school board of Beardstown for twenty years. He is a member of the Congregational church, in which he has officiated as a deacon since 1889. Fraternally, Mr. Hines is affiliated with the Blue Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at Beardstown, and the Commandery, at Rushville, and is also identified with Ark Lodge No. 16 I. O. O. F., of Beardstown. His military service is perpetuated in memory by membership in McLean Post No. 97 G. A. R. He has had a busy, useful and highly honorable career, and in his advancing years, still commands the unqualified respect and esteem of all those who appreciate those sterling traits of character that have adorned his life.

HINNERS, Hon. Albert Edwin.—Among the native sons of Cass County who have taken an important part in the affairs pertaining to the civic government of Virginia, one, whose contributions to the public welfare have been helpful and lasting, is Albert Edwin Hinners, who is now serving in his third term as mayor. He is also well known in the field of journalism, being the editor of the Virginia Enquirer, of which he has been the owner since January 1, 1911. Mr. Hinners was born June 22, 1873, on his father's farm, near Arenzville, Cass County, Ill., and is a son of Henry and Matilda (Benaught) Hinners.

Henry Hinners was born in Hanover, Germany, October 18, 1840, and as a young man learned the trade of machinist which he followed in his native land until reaching the age of twenty-six years. In 1866 he emigrated to the United States, and for a time was engaged in the milling business but subsequently turned his attention to farming. He continued to be successfully occupied as an agriculturist until 1905, in which year he moved from the farm to Virginia, and is now living in quiet retirement. Mrs. Hinners was born in Hesse Castle, Germany, April 17, 1839, and came to the United States with her parents when she was six years of age, the family settling in the locality known as the Sand Ridge, near Petersburg, Menard County, Ill. She has been twice married, her first husband, also named Henry Hinners, having been an uncle of her present husband.

Albert Edwin Hinners was graduated from the Arenzville High school in 1891 and from the Western Normal College in 1896, and passed his boyhood and youth on the home farm. He inherited some of his father's mechanical skill and showed a predilection for farm mechanics, but later went into the educational field and taught three terms each in the ungraded or country schools and in the graded schools, and following this was appointed principal of the Chandlerville High school. In 1898 he was elected county superintendent of schools of Cass County, on the Democratic ticket and served two terms, or eight years, and later acted for more than three years as deputy sheriff of Cass County. On January 1, 1911, he purchased an interest in the Virginia Enquirer, of which he became sole owner in November of the same year, and has continued to edit and publish this newspaper to the present time. It circulates throughout Cass and the surrounding counties, and under Mr. Hinners' capable management has become one of the leading Democratic organs of this part of the state. Always a stalwart Democrat, Mr. Hinners has been active in the ranks of his party, and has been, on several occasions, the candidate of the organization for public office. In 1905 he was first elected mayor of Virginia, serving one term, and in April, 1913, was again chosen for that office. His careful, businesslike and entirely efficient administration of the city's affairs won him a re-election in April, 1915, and he has since continued to devote his best efforts to the material interests of the city of his adoption. Mayor Hinners is a member of the Presbyterian church. He is well known in fraternal circles, being past master of the A. F. & A. M.; past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias; past sachem of the Improved Order of Red Men; and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Order of the Eastern Star and the O. S. O. E.

Mayor Hinners was married at Chandlerville, Cass County, January 19, 1899, to Miss Emma Anna Friedrich, who was born at Chandlerville, November 12, 1875. Mrs. Hinners' father started in the boot and shoe business at Chandlerville in 1860 and is now at the head of the oldest business firm of that city. To Mr. and Mrs. Hinners there has been born one son, Carrol Friedrich, September 24, 1910.

HOFSTETTER, William Chris.—One of the prospering business enterprises of Virginia, Ill., which controls an excellent trade in this village and the surrounding country is the Hofstetter-Carls Lumber Company, the president and manager of which, William Chris Hofstetter, is known as an energetic and enterprising business man and a citizen who has done much to develop the community's commercial and industrial interests. Mr. Hoffstetter was born on a farm in Cass County, Ill., December 24, 1865, and is a son of Bartholomew and Fannie (Hardy) Hofstetter.

Bartholomew Hofstetter was born at Gois, Switzerland, and emigrated to the United States in young manhood, locating in Cass County when twenty-six years of age. Here he was married to Miss Fannie Hardy, and they continued to make their residence on the family homestead during the remainder of their lives. William C. Hofstetter was reared amid rural surroundings and while assisting his father on the homestead during the summer months secured his education in the district schools during the winter terms. When he laid aside his school books, Mr. Hofstetter concentrated his energies upon tilling the soil until 1903, in that year coming to Virginia and becoming interested in business pursuits. Here he engaged in the lumber and grain business, and bought land adjoining the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad tracks, opposite the station, where he has erected large and substantial buildings for the storing and sale of lumber, paints and all kinds of builders' supplies and materials, and has also a large and well-equipped grain elevator. On March 1, 1912, the business was incorporated as the Hofstetter-Carls Lumber Company, with a capital of $10,000, his partners in this enterprise being his former clerk, A. B. Carls, and Mrs. Mary Hofstetter, his wife, and they continue as the sole stockholders and directors, Mr. Hofstetter being president and manager and Mr. Carls secretary and treasurer. Recently the company has purchased the property and coal business formerly owned by C. E. Paul, this property being located across the street from the lumber plant. Mr. Hofstetter



Oswell Skiles

nell school. Since his father's demise, he has been conducting the farm, raising grain and hogs. In politics he is a Democrat, but has not aspired to public office. Fraternally he is a member of Chandlerville Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and the Modern Woodmen of America of Bluff Springs. A sound, sensible man, he stands for progress in his community, and can be depended upon to uphold any measures he believes will work out for the general welfare of the county.

HUESCHEN, John.—Endeavor along agricultural lines if carried on carefully and industriously, results in an old age of ease and comfort. John Hueschen, who is now living retired on his well cultivated farm in Cass County, is one of the best examples of the prosperous farmers of his section. He was born in Prussia, Germany, January 20, 1846, a son of Henry and Anna (Frazee) Hueschen. These parents came from Germany to Beardstown in 1852, where the father worked as an honest laborer.

Growing up in Beardstown, John Hueschen, in boyhood, attended a German private school, but as soon as old enough began working for farmers. When he was thirty years old he commenced renting land at Arenzville and in its vicinity, and carefully saving his money, seven years later he was able to buy 120 acres of land which comprises his present homestead. Only a portion was improved, but now sixty acres are under cultivation, the remainder being in pasturage with six acres of timberland. Until 1913, Mr. Hueschen operated his property himself, but then retired, his son-in-law, Alvin Rupple now cultivating it, Mr. Hueschen still living on the farm.

On March 9, 1876, near Meredosia, Ill., by Rev. Theo. Buszin, pastor of the Lutheran church, Mr. Hueschen was united in marriage with Elizabeth Feidler, who was born July 24, 1856, in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, where her parents died. Mr. and Mrs. Hueschen became the parents of the following children: Theodore, Anna and Edwin, who are deceased; Hulda, who resides with her father; Alvin, who is deceased; and Della, who was married August 27, 1913, by C. W. Diedrich, of Chandlerville, Ill., to Alvin Rupple, and they have one son, Clarence J. C. Mrs. Hueschen died May 29, 1906, and was buried in Walnut Grove cemetery. Politically Mr. Hueschen is a Democrat and served as a school director for a number of years. In religious faith he is a German Lutheran. Upright, honest and industrious, Mr. Hueschen has been one of the substantial men of Cass County for many years, and stands very well with his neighbors.

HUGHES, Benjamin B.—Many of the successful men of Cass County, Ill., and particularly those belonging to the farming class, entered upon their careers with no capital save ambition and determination, strong hearts and willing hands, and with these have advanced themselves from modest circumstances and obscurity to positions of prominence and financial independence. In this class is found Benjamin B. Hughes, the owner of a well-cultivated farm in this county, who has been the architect of his own fortune and has builded well. Mr. Hughes was born in Fleming County, Ky., June 30, 1868, and is a son of Thomas Simpson and Amanda (Hurst) Hughes.

The grandparents of Mr. Hughes were John Hughes, of Virginia, and Anthony and Nancy (Staggs) Hurst, natives of Kentucky. The grandparents were all members of early families of the South, and for the greater part the members of these families have been engaged in farming. Thomas Simpson Hughes, father of Benjamin B. Hughes, is still a resident of the Blue Grass state, where his wife passed away in 1892, at the age of fifty-seven years. They were the parents of the following children: Charlotte, who is Mrs. George Helvestine, of Kentucky; Margaret, who died in childhood; Robert, a resident of Kentucky; Eliza, who died as Mrs. George McIntosh; Malinda, who became Mrs. George Glass, and is now deceased; Mary, who is the wife of G. M. Shrout; Seth, who lives in Kentucky, and Benjamin B.

Benjamin B. Hughes secured his education in the public schools of his native neighborhood, and was reared a farmer. At the age of twenty years he drifted to Cass County, Ill., where he secured employment on the farm of Harry Stribling, and soon thereafter went to work for I. M. Stribling, near Virginia. Mr. Hughes was married March 8, 1898, to Miss Emily Millner, born in Cass County, Ill., May 22, 1876, daughter of William B. and Lamira B. (Coleman) Millner, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Metcalf County, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have been the parents of four children: Helen Lamira, Irma Hazel, Benjamin Richard and Frances Elizabeth.

After marriage Mr. Hughes rented 400 acres of land from Mr. Stribling and continued to operate this land with some success until 1910, when he decided to try his fortunes in Carroll County, Mo., and accordingly purchased 160 acres of improved land and moved to that state. In the fall of the same year, however, he decided that Cass County offered better opportunities for success, and accordingly disposed of his Missouri interests and returned to Illinois. Here he purchased 100 acres of improved land in township 17, range 10, and has continued to engage in general farming. In addition to his own land, he operates 253 acres for Mr. Quigg, carries on general farming, and raises large numbers of Duroc-Jersey hogs and a high grade of cattle. Mr. Hughes is known as one of the most progressive farmers of his part of the county and is well entitled to praise, for his success has been entirely of his own making.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes are members of the Christian church, in which he has served as deacon since 1907. In politics a Republican; has served as school director and in other ways has rendered his community excellent services. Fraternally, he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, at Virginia, Ill.

HUGHES, David R., senior member of the reliable concrete construction firm of Hughes & McCarthy, of Beardstown, has won his enviable position among the leading men of Cass County through individual effort and natural ability. He was born at Lewistown, Ill., August 6, 1879, a son of David and Gertrude (Dennis) Hughes, and grandson of David Hughes. The grandfather was of German nativity, and upon his arrival in the United States, located in New Jersey, where his son David was born. Later on in life, the grandfather came to Galesburg, Ill., where he died, and his widow located at Lewistown, Ill. Here the younger David married, and he became a brick mason and contractor, still making his home at that place. He and his wife had the following children: Rollie, who is of Lewistown; David R.; Bethie, who is Mrs. Charles Mustard, of Lewistown; Horace; Clyde; Belle, who is Mrs. Dr. H. A. Levett, of Chicago; Julia, who is Mrs. Clarence Weirough of Lewistown, Ill.; and Don, who is also of Lewistown.

David R. Hughes learned the brick mason trade with his father and when twenty years old went to Astoria, Ill., where he became a brick manufacturer, forming a partnership with T. L. Martin. In 1902 the business was sold, and for a year Mr. Hughes worked again at his trade. In 1904, however, he came to Beardstown and established his present concrete construction business, and in 1907, took J. D. McCarthy into partnership with him. Both partners are men of experience and their contracts are executed faithfully and promptly.

On December 24, 1905, Mr. Hughes was married to Sadie Thompson, who was born at Lincoln, Nebr., January 25, 1881, a daughter of George and Amanda (Louderback) Thompson, natives of Fulton County, Ill., and of Schuyler County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have one son, Ocie Clifford, who was born August 24, 1907. Mr. Hughes is better informed than a number of men, for he not only took the regular public and high school courses, but taught school for four years, and takes pride in being abreast of the times. Since 1913 he has been a trustee of the Christian church, of which he is a consistent member, and he is also superintendent of the Sunday school. Fraternally he is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias.

HUNT, Daniel.—For nearly twenty-six years a locomotive engineer in the train service of the I. C. R. R. Company, and bearing the record of being one of the safest and most reliable engineers running on that road, is Daniel Hunt, of Beardstown, Cass County, Ill., who was born in St. Louis, Mo., August 31, 1878. In a certain sense he inherits his adaptability to such a task, his father having been an experienced and skillful man in this line of work, and the son having been reared to some extent in railroad surroundings. He is of Irish descent. His father, James Hunt, was a native of County Clare, Ireland, and his mother, Rosa (Curley) Hunt, came from the same county. The grandparents were James and Mary Hunt and James and Mary (Burns) Curley. The last named emigrated in 1843 to the United States and located in New York, where she was married. The husband was a boatman on the Mississippi River. The parents of Daniel Hunt were married in East St. Louis, Ill., and James Hunt worked as an engineer on different railroads, being there so employed on the C., B. & Q. Railroad until 1888, when he was transferred to Beardstown, Ill., where he died in April, 1903, while still serving as engineer. His widow is still a resident of Beardstown, where she is much respected and has numerous friends. The children of James and Rosa (Curley) Hunt were: Daniel; William, of Canton, Ohio, a railroad man on the W. & L. L. Railroad; Charles and James, of Beardstown, machinists; Frank, who is a coppersmith, lives at Beardstown; Edna, who is a resident of Canton, Ohio; Marie, who lives at Schenectady, N. Y.; and Joseph and Nan, both at home.

In early youth Daniel Hunt attended the public school, and at intervals afterwards availed himself of whatever opportunities were afforded for self culture, so that he may be called a well informed man. At the age of twelve years he began to work as caller for train crews on the Illinois Central Railroad, becoming a fireman five years later. Four years after this he was promoted to be an engineer and has since continuously held that position. He has never married, but always has made his home with his mother. In politics Mr. Hunt follows the fortunes of the Democratic party. He is affiliated with the B. P. O. E., No. 1007; the K. of C., No. 556; and the B. of L. E., No. 665, all of Beardstown. Among railroad men, as well as by all others who know his manly qualities, Mr. Hunt's fine traits of character have attracted to him a wide circle of friends.

HUNT, Joseph.—One of the pioneers of Cass County whose name is recorded among those who advanced the locality in every way, than whom none stood higher, was the late Joseph Hunt. He was born in Kentucky, September 19, 1824, when but an infant was taken to Indiana by his parents, John R. and Anna (Davis) Hunt, and there grew up. John R. Hunt and his wife were natives of Kentucky, he born in 1802, and died in 1877, a son of Maseach Hunt, a Revolutionary soldier, who served under General Wayne. John R. Hunt is buried in the cemetery at New Lebanon, Sullivan County, Indiana, as is his father.

Joseph Hunt served as a soldier during the Civil war, enlisting in August, 1862, and participated in the siege of Vicksburg, under General Grant. His honorable discharge was given him in August, 1865, from Company D, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. When he was twenty-five years old, he had come to Cass County, Ill., and here, on January 3, 1851, he married Durinda B. Freeman, born January 3, 1825, in Wilson County, Tenn., a daughter of Littleberry

Freeman, born February 22, 1787, and his wife Elizabeth (Young) Freeman, born August 20, 1783, both natives of North Carolina, who came in 1829, to Cass County, Ill., where Mr. Freeman entered a tract of land adjoining the city of Virginia. Like many others he had some early land troubles. Soon after settling, while cutting some timber on government land, his claim was disputed, but he quickly secured the necessary money to enter the claim, went to Springfield and thus settled the dispute by obtaining lawful possession of it. His holdings were large, and he divided his land among his children, Mrs. Hunt obtaining sixty-six and two-third acres as her share. In her childhood she was carried to school through the timber by the teacher a distance of three miles. There Mr. and Mrs. Hunt located, and there he died, January 28, 1894. They had two children, Henry, who is on the home farm; and Ida, who is Mrs. John Drinkwater of Cass County, has three children, Ralph, Joseph and Catherine.

Henry Hunt attended the schools of his district, and remained with his parents until 1880, when he went to Leadville, Colo., where he worked in the silver mines for three years. He also conducted a hotel at Evergreen Lake, Colo., as a summer resort, but after seven years returned to the old home and is now personally conducting the farm. On March 17, 1886, Mr. Hunt married Clara Grant, born at Jacksonville, Ill., August 25, 1855, a daughter of Dr. Henry D. and Huldah M. (Gardner) Grant, natives of New York and Vermont, respectively. The father was a physician and died in Illinois in 1884, the mother surviving him until 1886. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Hunt, John M. and Clarissa (Wooster) Grant, and the maternal grandparents, Daniel and Rebecca R. (Ray) Gardner, of Vermont, were all pioneers of Illinois. Mrs. Hunt's grandfather, John M. Grant, was a first cousin to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, the eighteenth president of the United States. The Gardner family came of Puritan stock, while the Grants were of Scotch ancestry. Mrs. Hunt was educated in the common and high schools of Jacksonville, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have one child, Bernice Grant, who was born at Evergreen Lake, Colo., August 19, 1890. Mr. Hunt belongs to the Methodist church. In politics he is a Republican. His standing is such that he is justly numbered among the substantial men of Cass County.

HUNTER, Edward Trevor, cashier of the Beardstown State Bank, is connected with one of the sound financial institutions of Cass County, and one which he has helped to bring to its present stable condition. This bank was organized March 29, 1910, by H. W. Hackman, E. H. Kinney, and E. T. Hunter, with a capital of $50,000 and $10,000 surplus fully paid up. The bank was opened for business December 19, 1910, with the following officers in charge: Charles F. Johnson, president; H. W. Hackman, vice president; E. H. Kinney, cashier; E. T. Hunter, assistant cashier. In October, 1913, Mr. Kinney resigned and E. T. Hunter was appointed his successor. The present bank building was erected in 1910 by Vice President H. W. Hackman, and is one of, if not the most substantial and modern buildings in the city.

Edward Trevor Hunter was born on a farm near Pana, in Christian County, Ill., June 26, 1867, of Scotch-Irish descent. His parents were among the pioneer settlers of Illinois, coming to this country overland with a company of twelve or fifteen other families from Ohio in 1853. The colony settled in Christian County and in honor of their native state called the settlement Buckeye Prairie. Edward T. Hunter was educated in the district schools and when twenty-one years of age left the farm and entered the employ of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad Company in the capacity of station agent. In 1908 he left the railroad service to become manager of a wholesale grocery owned by H. M. Schmoldt of Beardstown, Ill. There he remained until the bank above mentioned was organized. Since then he has devoted his time to the bank's interests.

In October, 1897, Mr. Hunter was married to Mayme S. Hendricker, a daughter of Conrad and Minnie (Hackman) Hendricker. They are affiliated with the Methodist church, Mr. Hunter having served as secretary of the official board since 1910. In politics he is a Republican and has been secretary of the county central committee of his party a number of times, delegate to the state conventions from this county, and was appointed by Governor Yates as a member of the State Board of Public Charities. He is a member of Ark Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F.; Tonguewa tribe No. 393, I. O. R. M., and Jacksonville Post No. 9, T. P. A.

HUTCHES, Sylvester E., now living retired, spent many useful and busy years as an agriculturist of Cass County. He was born in Menard County, Ill., February 17, 1849, a son of Matthew L. and Sallie (Edwards) Hutches, natives of New York state. They were early settlers of Menard County, coming there about 1830, settling on a farm, but some years later came to Cass County, locating in the Sangamon River bottom. The mother died at Jacksonville, Ill., in 1864, while the father died at Chapin, Morgan County, Ill., in the same year.

Sylvester E. Hutches was the youngest of the five children born to his parents, and attended the schools of his district, remaining at home until the death of the parents. He then worked for others until 1869, and in that year moved to his father's homestead in Morgan County. When he married, he located on eighty acres of land, fifty acres of which are cultivated, the remainder being in pasture and timber, in township 18, range 9. This he conducted until 1913, when he retired and rented the property to his wife's brother.

On March 11, 1874, Mr. Hutches was married by Rev. Charles Elder, at Havana, Ill., to Elizabeth A. Wilson, born in Cass County, Ill., December 6, 1857, a daughter of Calvin and Sallie



Les Stiles

Ann (Taylor) Wilson, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky. They married in Menard County, Ill., and located in Cass County, where both died. Mr. and Mrs. Hutches have had one daughter, Lelia M., who married Otto Gephart, of Chandlerville, and they have: Inez, Altha, Edward and Elinor. Mr. Hutches has been a trustee of the Christian church since 1894. In politics he is a Democrat, and served as a trustee of schools many years, and also as road commissioner. The Odd Fellows of Chandlerville hold his membership.

IRELAND, Charles, one of the best known and most popular and reliable passenger conductors on the Springfield Division of the O. & M. Railroad, now the B. & O., was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, June 3, 1857. His parents were Alphonso C. and Sarah Jane (Butler) Ireland, the former born in Philadelphia, Pa., and the latter in Petersburg, Va. They were married in Ohio, where the father was a member of the firm of Welsh, Ireland & Company, conducting the foundry and machine works which turned out the first portable engine ever made. Alphonso C. Ireland continued in that business until some time in the sixties, when he sold his interest and went into the hardware and stove business. In 1873 he retired and spent the remainder of his life in Ohio, dying in 1895. His widow died in 1902. They had eight children, five of whom are living, as follows: Anna M., widow of C. M. Stanton, formerly superintendent of the O. & M. Railroad, and later, general manager of the I. S. E. Railroad, now the C. B. & Q. Railroad; William W., of Chillicothe, Ohio; Nellie C. (Mrs. Thomas T. Cahill), of Chillicothe, Ohio; Alphonso C., of Long Beach, Cal.; and Charles.

The paternal grandfather, Alphonso C. Ireland, born in Philadelphia, belonged to a carpenters' union holding its meetings in the hall where the first United States congress held its sessions, and his picture still hangs on the wall. Mr. Ireland's mother was a descendant of Governor Vaughn, one of the Colonial governors of Virginia.

In his youthful years Charles Ireland attended the district schools in Ohio, and on August 1, 1873, began to learn the trade of locomotive building at Chillicothe. In 1878 he worked for some time at Vincennes, Ind., and then entered the train service as brakeman and baggage-master. He was promoted to be passenger conductor July 6, 1883, and by his own request, was transferred from the main line to the Springfield Division, June 1, 1889. Since then he has resided in Beardstown, his run being from Beardstown to Flora.

On October 16, 1884, Mr. Ireland was united in marriage with Nellie Hammer, daughter of Franklin and Margaret A. (Lee) Hammer, the former of Virginia, the latter, of Illinois, born in Cass County. In his later life, Franklin Hammer was engaged in the hardware business with John J. Beatty, who still carries it on with his son. Mr. and Mrs. Ireland have two children, namely: Charles, who lives in Chicago, and Margaret A., who is at home. The religious connection of Mr. Ireland is with the Congregational church. In politics he is a Democrat. He is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., belonging to the Chapter and Commandery; the M. W. A., Muscoutin Camp, of Beardstown; and the O. R. C.

Mr. Ireland and his family have many friends. As for himself, the record he has made for efficiency and reliability in fulfilling the important duties of his highly responsible position in the railroad passenger service, enables him to command the respect and esteem of all who know and appreciate the sterling qualities essential to fit a man for such a place.

ISHMAEL, Robert.—Among the oldest farmers in period of residence who are still owning and operating farms of any considerable extent in the vicinity of Oakford, Cass County, Ill., is Robert Ishmael, the greater part of whose life has been spent in the labor of cultivating the tract on which he lives. The farm is comprised of 210 acres, situated in section 20, township 19, range 8, and Oakford is the name of the postal station by which Mr. Ishmael may be reached in correspondence.

Mr. Ishmael was born in Cass County July 12, 1847. He is a son of William and Polly (Lynn) Ishmael, both natives of Kentucky, where his father followed the occupation of a farmer. In his boyhood days he had slender opportunity for improving his mind, and attended the district school of his neighborhood very briefly, as nearly all of his time was devoted to assisting his father in the work on the home farm. So slight was his schooling that, although he learned a little reading and writing from his teacher, he allowed it to slip from his memory through lack of practice, and now can neither read nor write.

Mr. Ishmael has been six times married, having been five times left a widower. Four children have resulted from these successive marriages, born in the following order: Tilton, July 8, 1877; Robert, March 24, 1886; Howard E., September 2, 1908; and Eula, June 15, 1913. The last two are the offspring of the sixth marriage. The maiden name of Mr. Ishmael's last wife, to whom he was wedded in Cass County, Ill., February 16, 1908, was Emma Skagg, born in Menard County, Ill., a daughter of James and Ellen (Haynes) Skagg, both natives of Cass County.

Mr. Ishmael is an industrious and prudent farmer. The first steam threshing machine in the neighborhood of Oakford was introduced by him and was used for the purpose of operating a sawmill and cornsheller. In politics he is a Democrat. He has taken no very active part in local political affairs, but has served as a school trustee. His religious connection is with the Baptist church. He is a man of very sociable disposition and is well liked among his neighbors and the people of the township.

JACOBS, Henry.—The present county clerk of Cass County, Henry Jacobs, has been before the people of this county in an official capacity since the year 1904, when he was made city superintendent of schools of Virginia. Prior to this time he had been engaged in teaching, and had fairly earned a reputation for ability in his profession and fidelity in the performance of duty. His city superintendency was followed by eight years of excellent work in the office of county superintendent of schools, and in 1914 he was elected on the Democratic ticket to the position of county clerk. His incumbency of this office to date has been characterized by labors the quality of which promise that his reputation for capable and honorable public service will be fully maintained.

Henry Jacobs was born at Virginia, Ill., June 4, 1874, and is a son of Robinson and Eliza Jane (Murray) Jacobs. His mother, who was born at Virginia, April 17, 1839, is still living in the house in which she was born. Henry Jacobs was given excellent educational advantages, attending the graded and high schools of Virginia, and the University of Illinois, from which he was duly graduated. He at once entered upon his career as an educator, his first school being at Bluff Springs, Cass County. In 1898 he was appointed principal of the Chandlerville High school, a position which he retained until 1901, when he accepted a like appointment at Virginia, and held it until 1906. In the meantime, in 1904, he was made city superintendent of schools, and retained this office until 1906, in which year he was elected county superintendent of schools, and at the end of his first term of four years received a re-election. At the close of his second term, Mr. Jacobs published a 200-page book entitled "Cass County Public Schools, 1906-1914," a timely and interesting illustrated volume, which is a valuable addition to the educational literature and history of Cass County, as it includes an itemized and detailed account of every school in the county. In 1914 Mr. Jacobs became the Democratic candidate for county clerk, to which office he was duly elected and in which he has efficiently served.

At Virginia, Ill., August 15, 1901, Mr. Jacobs was married to Mame D. Wyatt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Wyatt, pioneers of Illinois. Three children have been born to this union: Edith Bernita, in 1903; Donovan Wyatt, in 1905, and Henry Homer, in 1911. The family home is pleasantly situated on lots 1, 2 and 3, in Elizabeth Thompson's Addition to Virginia.

JOHNSON, Arthur L.—The subject of this personal sketch and his interesting family are well and favorably known to the people of Virginia, Cass County, Ill., in the vicinity of which he carries on farming, although for a time, in recent years, he lived in another state. His farm is situated in township 18, range 10, adjoining the village of Chandlerville, and consists of 240 acres of farming land, and eighteen acres of timber. The details of Mr. Johnson's family relations and the conditions of his earlier life may be found more fully in a record of his brother, George M. Johnson, which appears in this volume.

Arthur L. Johnson is a native of Cass County, where he was born September 8, 1876, a son of Richard and Sarah (Plaster) Johnson. The father spent his life in farming. During his youthful period, Arthur attended the Chandlerville High school, and received a fair education. After his school days were over he remained at home while his parents were living. When they passed away he inherited the homestead and applied himself to the management of its interests. In 1908, however, he leased the home property and rented a farm in Oklahoma. There he stayed two years, and then returning, has ever since been engaged in raising grain and stock on the paternal land, in all 258 acres.

On November 28, 1901, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Nancy A. Harbison, who was born January 28, 1884, a daughter of Moses and Lydia F. (Mason) Harbison, the father a Kentuckian, and the mother's birthplace being in Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have two children, namely: Mabel Frances, born September 9, 1903; and Richard Moses, born April 19, 1907. In politics Mr. Johnson acts with the Democratic party, and has rendered efficient service as a school director since the year 1911.

JOHNSON, George M.—On both paternal and maternal sides the ancestry of George M. Johnson, who is well known in Cass County, dates back to an early period in the history of western Illinois. His own birth occurred in Mason County, January 28, 1859, that of his father, Richard M. Johnson, taking place in the same county, while his mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Ann Plaster, was born on the Sangamon bottoms in Cass County. The paternal grandparents, Jonathan and Rosanna Johnson, were natives of Tennessee, as was Thomas Plaster, the maternal grandfather, who was among the first settlers of Cass County, where he acquired considerable tracts of land.

Jonathan Johnson and his wife located in Mason County in the early stages of its settlement, and soon after their marriage, Richard M. Johnson, their son, and his wife made their home there also. In 1861 they moved to the Sangamon River bottom, where Richard M. secured several hundred acres of bottom land, also owning eighty acres on the bluffs. At first he lived in a log house, later building a fine, large brick house from brick made to order, and under his own supervision. He died July 11, 1901, at the age of sixty-seven years, his wife having passed away in 1898. Their children were as follows: George M.; Carrie E., who died when eighteen years old; John T., of Cass County, Ill.; Andrew, deceased, at the age of twenty-four years; Ella and Ida, deceased at the ages of seventeen and thirty years respectively; Arthur Lee, who lives on the home place; and Addie (Mrs. James Wing), of Cass County.

In youth George M. Johnson attended the dis-

trict schools, and remained at home until his marriage, which took place May 1, 1881, at which time he wedded Naomi Showalter, a native of Cass County, and a daughter of George and Clarissa (Graham) Showalter, natives of Virginia. After his marriage, Mr. Johnson lived on a portion of his father's place where he has since continued. On the latter's death, 140 acres of the home place was left to the son, also twenty acres in Mason County, and nine acres near Chandlerville. He has added to the homestead property until he now owns 240 acres on the lower Sangamon River bottom. He cultivates all the land, being engaged in general grain farming. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children, namely: Pearl (Mrs. H. M. Dillon), and Alfred, both of Cass County; and Lloyd, who is at home.

Politically Mr. Johnson belongs to the Democratic party. In 1907 he was elected commissioner of the Mason and Cass Drainage District, in which position he has since served continuously. Wherever Mr. Johnson's acquaintance extends, he is regarded with much respect, and is considered one of the leading citizens of the community in which he lives.

JOKISCH, George Frederick, a general farmer of Cass County, residing in township 17, range 9, is one of the very substantial men of this section and belongs to one of the old pioneer families of 1835. He was born near Arenzville, Cass County, November 2, 1858, and is a son of Charles Traugott and Mary (Carls) Jokisch. The father was born in Saxony and the mother in Hanover, Germany, and they accompanied their parents to the United States and were married in Illinois, afterward settling near Bluff Springs in Cass County, where the mother yet lives, the father being deceased. His business was farming. They had the following children: Louis H., who lives at Bluff Springs; Philipina and Edward, both of whom are deceased; Albert W. and George Frederick, both of whom live in Cass County; Emma, who is Mrs. Charles Wilson, of Virginia, Ill.; Mrs. Elizabeth Hageman, who is deceased; John, who died aged three years; Richard, who lives at Bluff Springs; Cora, who resides with her mother; Tillie, who is Mrs. Charles Jones, of Bluff Springs; and Ida, who is deceased.

George Frederick Jokisch attended the district schools in boyhood and remained at home assisting his father until his marriage, after which he lived one year on his father in law's farm and then spent two years south of Virginia and two years south of Philadelphia, afterward renting his present farm for two years, when he purchased 280 acres, 200 of which lie in Cass and eighty in Morgan County. When the farm came into his possession he began to make improvements and remodeled all the buildings then standing and erected others and has the whole place in fine condition. General farming has been his main industry and he also raises Poland China hogs. Since the spring of 1914, his son Louis works the land in Morgan County, while his son Fred gives his assistance on the home place.

On November 2, 1882, Mr. Jokisch was married to Anna Mary Lee, who was born at Bluff Springs, April 1, 1862, a daughter of Lycurgus and Luvina (Ream) Lee. Mrs. Jokisch died February 2, 1914, the mother of the following children: Eva, who is the wife of Arthur Reynolds, of township 17, range 9; Louis, who lives in Morgan County; Mary, who is the wife of Frank Newell, in Morgan County; and Fred, who lives with his father. Mr. Jokisch attends the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views he is a progressive Republican. He has many friends over Cass and Morgan counties and is fraternally identified with the M. W. A. of Ashland and the Court of Honor, of Prentice, in Morgan County. He has always been a friend of the public schools and has served as school director since 1890.

JOKISCH, Morris, a well known man in Cass County and a large landowner, for many years has given considerable attention to grain farming and found it profitable. He was born near Bluff Springs, Cass County, September 23, 1849, a son of Charles G. and Elnora (Carls) Jokisch. Charles G. Jokisch was born in Hanover, Germany, and was about sixteen years of age when he accompanied his father and grandfather to the United States and to Cass County, Ill., about 1834. He married Elnora Carls, who was born in Hanover, Germany, and came to Cass County with her father. After marriage they settled on land which the grandfather of Mr. Jokisch had secured from the government, and he finally owned 200 acres of as fine land as can be found in the state. Charles G. Jokisch died in the spring of 1893 and his wife died in 1900. They had the following children: Mary, deceased; Morris; Philip, of Bluff Springs, Ill.; Matilda, now deceased, was the wife of Henry Loomis; Amelia, who is the wife of Edward Hackman, of Cass County; Edward, of Cass County; and Harry, of Harriman, Ore.

Morris Jokisch attended the district schools and was a student for one year in the Beardstown Academy. He remained assisting his father until his marriage, after which, for six years, he lived on a part of the home place, then bought 200 acres in township 17, range 9, Cass County, which was partly improved. He has added land until he now has 326 acres, 160 acres in another part of the township and has 320 acres in Trail County, N. Dak., which one of his sons conducts. Mr. Jokisch has always managed his home farm himself, on which he has a fine residence of ten rooms.

On December 4, 1873, Mr. Jokisch was married to Mary Musch, born December 6, 1854, in Cass County, and died here April 28, 1910, her burial being in the Virginia cemetery. Her parents were John and Obedina (Lippert) Musch, the father a native of Germany. The mother was born on the ocean and was named for the ship on which her parents were coming to America. The following children were born to Mr. and

Mrs. Jokisch: Howard, Robert and Elmer, all farmers, the last named condncting the 160-acre farm; Grace, wife of William F. Allison, of Philadelphia, Ill.; Reuben, a farmer in North Dakota; Lloyd, living at home; Arthnr and Albert, twins, both at home; and Lena Mae, living with her father. There are eight grandchildren in the family. Mr. Jokisch and family attend the Methodist Episcopal chnrch. In politics he is a Republican.

JURGENS, Henry G., an enterprising farmer of Oregon Precinct, township 18, range 9, is the owner of a rnral property that is increasing in valne every day owing to his efforts. Mr. Jurgens was born at Oldenburg, Germany, November 9, 1878, a son of John and Mattie (Balster) Jnrgens who, in 1881, came to the United States and located in Menard County, Ill. There John Jnrgens worked as a farm hand nntil 1893, when he moved to Cass County, buying land in Oregon Precinct, where he and his wife still reside. They have had the following children: Fred, who lives in Iowa; Mary, who is Mrs. Joseph DeGroot of Missouri; Henry G.; Carl and Herman, both of whom are of Oregon Precinct; Willie, who is of Menard Connty, Ill.; and Emma and Lonis, who are at home.

After receiving a district school edncation, Henry G. Jurgens began farming for himself at the age of twenty-one years, npon rented land, thus continuing for nine years. In September, 1910, he bought eighty acres in Oregon Precinct, township 18, range 9, where he is placing his land under cultivation. On this farm he has erected a number of snitable buildings, and takes pride in his premises and work.

On October 25, 1904, Mr. Jurgens married Phebe Dinkle, born at Tallula, Ill., a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Stall) Dinkle, of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Jurgens have had the following children: Freda, Alma, Edward, Lena, and Harold, who died July 25, 1914. Mr. Jurgens is a Lntheran in religions faith. He is a Republican, and is serving as a school director, a practical, sensible man who commands general respect.

JURGENS, John, proprietor of one of the finest farms in Cass County, has attained to his present prosperity through the exercise of his own talents and laborions efforts to attain the end in view. He was born at Oldenburg, Germany, July 7, 1846, a son of John and Grace M. (Hnndorf) Jurgens, who died in their native land.

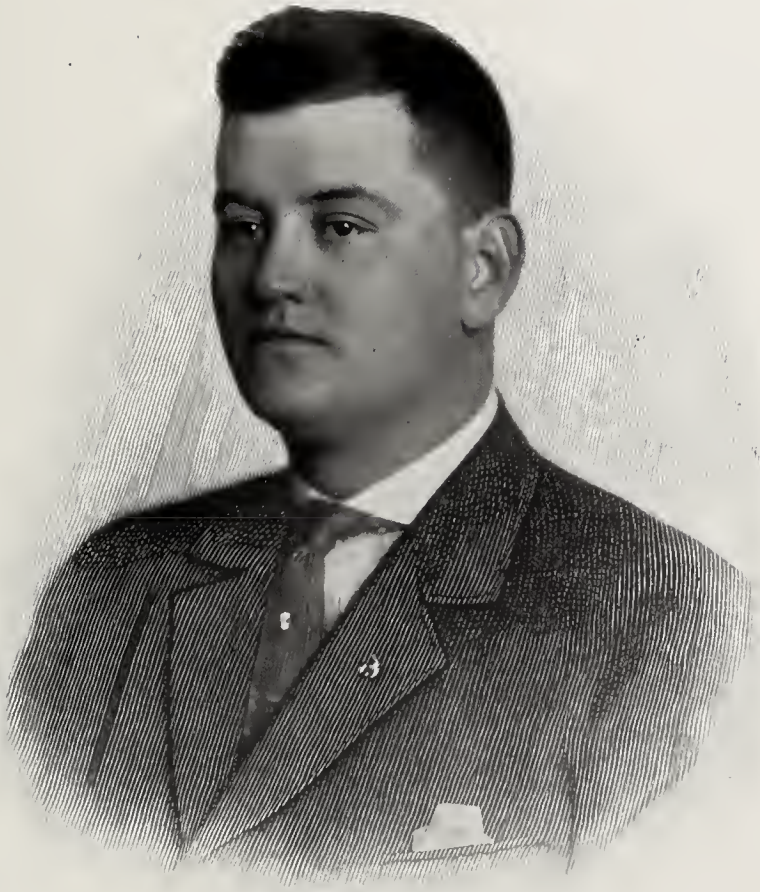
When he was only ten years old, John Jurgens had become self-snpporting, and in 1882, realizing the better agricultural opportunities offered in the United States, came here, and soon after his arrival settled in Cass County, where he worked by the month and day at farm labor. This he continned for fonr years, and then rented land in Menard County. After a few years there he came back to Cass Connty, and bought 123 acres of land at Oregon Point, township 18, range 9, which he has made into one of the most valuable rnral properties to be found within the bonndaries of the connty. On it he carries on general grain farming.

While living in Germany, Mr. Jurgens, on February 17, 1875, was married to Anna Margaret Balster, born in Germany, Jannary 30, 1854, and their children are: Fred, who is of Iowa; Mary, who is Mrs. Joseph De Groat, of Missonri; Henry, Carl and Herman, all of whom are of Cass County, and William, Emma and Louis, who live at home; and five who died in infancy. There are sixteen grandchildren in the family. Mr. Jnrgens belongs to the Lutheran church. His political views make him a Democrat. A man of sterling principles, he has tried to live np to what he believes is right, and he enjoys the fnll confidence of all with whom he has dealings.

KEIL, Henry C., mayor of Beardstown and for many years prominent in mercantile circles, is admittedly one of the leading men of Cass County. He is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, where he was born November 7, 1848, a son of John and Elizabeth (Moell) Keil. While in his native land he learned the tinner's trade, and not finding the opportunities he desired in his native land, left it for America on March 15, 1867. After a short stay in New York City, he secnred employment in a manufactnring plant at Whitestown, L. I., where he worked at his trade for a year. He then came to Illinois, locating at Jacksonville, where for three years he continued to work at his trade. In 1870 he settled in Cass County and for a year worked on a farm. Preferring work at his trade, however, he came to Beardstown, and worked as a journeyman tinner for fonr years, then, on March 1, 1875, he embarked in a tin business on his own account, and was so very successful that in 1880 he added a hardware line, now being the oldest hardware merchant in Beardstown. He handles shelf and light hardware, stoves and similar stock, and does all kinds of plumbing.

On January 14, 1877, Mr. Keil married Miss Sophia Weiss, who was born in Cass County, a daughter of John and Catherine (Hahn) Weiss, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Keil became the parents of the following children: Alma, who is Mrs. John G. Pratt of Virginia, Ill.; Arthur J., who is assisting his father in his store; and Edwin L., who is on his father's farm in Cass County. The mother of these children died in February, 1907. On June 10, 1908, Mr. Keil married Miss Emma Ortwein, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Schneider) Ortwein. Mrs. Keil is a native of Beardstown.

While Mr. Keil's educational opportunities were confined to instruction received in the pnblic schools of his native land, he is a very well informed man and stands very high with his fellow citizens. He is an honored member of the German Lutheran church, as are the family, and has been a trustee of it for many years. For three years he served the Third Ward as alderman, and in 1899 was elected mayor, serving nntil 1907, and in 1909 he was re-elected



L. O. Stiles.

mayor of the city, and has served continuously ever since. Mayor Keil is a man of steadfast purpose, one who has steadily forged his way to the front, and his success in life has been honestly earned through individual effort.

KENDALL, Orren.—The development of farm land requires hard work and persistent endeavor, but the results justify the expenditure of time and money, especially in Cass County. One of the men who is making farming a paying business is Orren Kendall, of township 18, range 10. He was born in Menard County, near Oakford, Ill., January 5, 1844, a son of George N. and Margaret (Ogden) Kendall, natives of New York state and of Massachusetts, respectively. George N. Kendall came to Springfield in 1833, when still a lad. He learned the carpenter and cabinetmaking trades, but later on was engaged in farming, in Menard County, although he also worked at carpentering. His agricultural operations were conducted on his own farm in Menard County, which, originally, was a portion of the farm owned by Amos and Abigail (Lansburg) Ogden, his wife's parents, who, natives of New York state, were among the early settlers of Menard County, Ill. Mrs. Kendall died about 1853, in Menard County, and ten years later, Mr. Kendall and four of his children came to the Sangamon River bottoms in Cass County, where Mr. Kendall bought a farm of 240 acres of land, 120 acres of which were in the bottoms, and the remainder on the bluffs. This property originally belonged to the parents of his second wife. The death of Mr. Kendall occurred in August, 1902, in Cass County, when he was nearly ninety years old.

Orren Kendall received his educational training in the Hickory district school, and resided with his father, until his marriage, in 1879. The year prior to this he had bought 168 acres of land, 128 acres of which were in the bottoms, and forty acres on the bluffs. On this he erected all the buildings, and now carries on farming and stock raising, specializing on the latter industry.

On July 11, 1879, Mr. Kendall was married by Rev. J. Roach, to Sarah E. Hess, born in McDonough County, February 5, 1857, a daughter of Isaac and Caroline (Collins) Hess, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, both of whom died in Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Kendall moved to their farm after their marriage, and it has continued to be their home. Their children are as follows: Edna, who is Mrs. Floyd Bankus, born August 8, 1886, lives on the homestead where her husband works; and Velda C., born October 11, 1890, who is at home. Mr. Kendall has been a justice of the peace for many years, and also has served as a school director. He is a Prohibitionist in political faith. Mrs. Kendall is a member of the Presbyterian church.

KENNEDY, Charles Fletcher.—The story of a successful career, when its details are truthfully unfolded, affords a lesson for imitation to those who are standing at the threshold of youth. One of the substantial citizens of Beardstown, who has developed into a wholesome example to follow, is Charles Fletcher Kennedy, a prosperous clothing merchant of this city, located at No. 203 State street, on the public square.

Charles Fletcher Kennedy was born on a farm in Sangamon County, Ill., February 10, 1871. He is a son of Fletcher and Mary (Fisher) Kennedy, both of New Jersey. Fletcher Kennedy came to Illinois with one of his brothers when a boy, belonging to a family of twelve children, all trace of whom was lost.

Remaining on the farm in Sangamon County until he was nineteen years old, Charles Fletcher Kennedy then moved to Waverly, Morgan County, and went to work in a clothing store, where he obtained his first experience in that line. In 1898 he located in Beardstown, starting a dry goods business which he continued until 1907, when he added clothing to his stock, dealing afterward also in china, tinware, light hardware, etc., until 1912. In that year he closed out everything but clothing and gents furnishing goods, which he has since handled exclusively. The store is under the immediate management of Mr. Kennedy and is conducted under the name of the New York Store, three clerks being employed. The stock is well selected and of good grade and the business receives close attention and commands a satisfactory patronage.

Mr. Kennedy was married December 10, 1895, to Miss Edith Church, a daughter of C. E. and Jane (Hutchinson) Church. They have three children: Jane, Lester and Hazel, all of whom are at home.

Mr. Kennedy is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he serves on the board of trustees, and officiates as assistant superintendent of the Sunday school. He takes an active interest pertaining to the work of the church. In the matter of fraternal orders, he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F. He is a public spirited citizen, and at a recent meeting of the Beardstown Business Men's Association was made president of that body, and is a director in the Beardstown Building and Loan Association, with which he has been connected for four years. In the spring of 1913, he was elected a member of the board of education.

KIEHL, Edward.—The business interests of Beardstown are conserved by some of the most reliable and progressive men of this part of the state, and among them no one stands higher than Edward Kiehl, grocer and merchant. He was born in Brown County, Ohio, March 17, 1860, a son of Joseph and Caroline (Wolf) Kiehl, natives of Germany. The father learned the baker's trade in Germany, and came to the United States when seventeen years old, landing at New Orleans where he worked during the ensuing winter, and when the river opened, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and there worked at his trade for several years. He then

married and located at Ripley, Brown County, Ohio.

Edward Kiehl was educated in the common school of Brown County, and learned the trade of a baker. Coming to Illinois, he established himself in a bakery business in LaSalle County, but after three years sold it, and in 1889 established another bakery at Beardstown. This he conducted for eighteen years, when he disposed of it, built a store and went into a grocery business, and has continued in this line ever since, meeting with a well deserved patronage.

Mr. Kiehl has never married, his sister Caroline keeping house for him and assisting him in the store. He has two brothers and two other sisters, namely: Mrs. Josephine Smith, a widow, of Chicago; Joseph, of Louisiana; Mrs. Adeline Kelly, of Kentucky; and John, of New York City. Mr. Kiehl owns his residence at No. 410 Jackson street. He is a Democrat but has never held any political office. Fraternally he belongs to Beardstown Lodge No. 23, A. F. & A. M., and Beardstown Lodge No. 207, K. of P.

KING, Jesse E.—With the advance in civilized conditions among the living has come the desire to make more fitting the services rendered to the dead. The progressive undertakers of today are meeting the demand by providing equipments and learning methods which insure sanitation and which make of a necessary observance a dignified ceremonial. One of the men who is engaged in the undertaking business at Virginia, is Jesse E. King, who also carries a complete line of furniture, pianos and rugs. He is a native of the county, having been born here July 13, 1876, a son of Marcus B. and Margaret (Spencer) King, most excellent people of Cass County. His father was a farmer. He was educated in the country schools. His early life was spent on a farm, and then for four years he was engaged as a clerk in a furniture store and undertaking establishment at Virginia. In 1895 Mr. King bought the establishment from his former employers and has since conducted it. In order that his patrons might have the best of service, he took a course in embalming and undertaking in Chicago and St. Louis, and put his knowledge to practical use for a short period in the latter city. It may be said that during the almost twenty years that J. E. King has been in the undertaking business that he has never had an accident, which fact very few can say. His stock of furniture, pianos and rugs is a fine one, and he does a large business along these lines.

On September 14, 1894, Mr. King was united in marriage with Lula Kirkendell, a daughter of George and Susan Kirkendell, and they have one child, Irene, who has been a student at Belmont College, Belmont, Tenn.

KING, Marcus B., one of the enterprising farmers of township 18, range 10, is an excellent example of what an energetic man can accomplish if he has perseverance. He was born in Wilson County, Tenn., January 11, 1840, a son of John H. and Sarah (Chandler) King, natives of Smith County, Tenn., and Wilson County, in the same state. In 1861, these parents came to Cass County, traveling through Arkansas on the way. The father rented farms for ten years and then they moved to Missouri, where he died. The mother then returned to Cass County where she passed the rest of her life.

Marcus B. King never received much schooling, but made the most of what he had, and has learned through experience. On December 1, 1861, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company H, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was at Fort Donelson and Pittsburg Landing, and from there was sent to Springfield, Ill., to do guard duty. In June, 1863, he went with his regiment to Cairo, Ill., then to Paducah, Ky., and from there to Memphis, Tenn., and on to Vicksburg. He was also in the Red River Expedition, and was in the engagement with the enemy on Pleasant Hill. During 1864 his regiment traveled 5,000 miles. During June and July he was with the regiment at Vicksburg, then in Arkansas, next at Memphis, Tenn., and in several more expeditions, one being to Westford, Kas. From there the regiment was sent to St. Louis, and then to Nashville, where it was engaged in battle two days. In December, 1864, the regiment marched to Eastport, Miss., and then north to Chicago, and Mr. King was discharged February 7, 1865, and returned to Cass County, Ill. Here he rented land for three years, then bought land in Morgan County, Ill., remaining on it for four years, then sold, and in 1872 came to township 18, range 10, Cass County, where he bought eighty acres of land, twenty-five acres of which was cleared. During the time he has operated his farm he has put it all under cultivation, erected the present buildings and made many other improvements.

On January 30, 1866, he was married to Margaret Spicer, born October 30, 1845, in Cass County, a daughter of Jesse and Margaret (Baine) Spicer of Virginia. Their children have been as follows: Jesse, who is of Virginia, Ill., married Lucy Kirkendall, and they had one child, Irene; Dora E. and Clara, twins, live at Springfield and Jacksonville respectively, Clara being now the wife of William E. Smith and had one child, Dora L., now deceased; Addie, who is Mrs. Frank Gaines, of Virginia, Ill., has one daughter, Rena; and Alma, who is at home. Mr. King has served as school director and also as road commissioner. In politics he is a Republican. A man of progressive ideas, he has put them to practical use on his farm, and his property shows the effect of the care bestowed upon it.

KIRCHNER, William F. (deceased).—In his time William F. Kirchner, whose industrious and prosperous life came to an end after a duration of seventy years, was one of the most extensive farmers in Cass County, Ill., and he cultivated one of the most desirable tracts of land in the Sangamon River bottoms. Like many other

successful men of his calling in the early history of this region, he was of German origin, having been born in Saxony, January 19, 1834. On emigrating to the United States, he located in Chicago, where he was employed in driving a team for two years. This was in 1854, and then, making up his mind to undertake agricultural pursuits he came from Cook County to Cass County and bought a farm on the bottom lands along the Sangamon River, and in the course of time engaged in farming on a large scale. In 1888 he purchased 320 acres in Sedgwick County, Kas., which is now rented out. Of the bottom lands in Cass County there still remains in the family possession 130 acres, constituting a very choice farm. At the time of his most extensive farming operations he was the owner of 700 acres, much of which he sold. He died December 20, 1903.

The marriage of William F. Kirchner took place at Beardstown, Ill., on December 28, 1857, at which time he wedded Elizabeth Yeck, who was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, January 22, 1838. Mrs. Kirchner came to this country with one of her sisters, and located at Beardstown, settling on the Sangamon bottoms after her marriage, where she still resides. The children resulting from their union were as follows: Mary (Mrs. Richard Schuman), of Chicago; Louis, of South Dakota; Matilda, deceased, who was Mrs. John Schaad; Elizabeth (Mrs. Lincoln Fielding), of township 18, range 10, Cass County; Frank, deceased; Ann (Mrs. Joseph During), deceased; and Emma (Mrs. J. R. Sligh), of Virginia, Cass County, Mr. Sligh having served as assessor and treasurer of Cass County.

Mr. Kirchner was a very upright, honorable, and useful member of the community. His religious connection was with the Lutheran church. Politically he acted with the Democratic party. His widow and the entire family are much respected and have a wide circle of friends.

KNIGHT, Robert Haywood, now living on a portion of his father's homestead, is a recognized leader in agricultural matters in Cass County. He was born in Hickory Precinct, Sangamon bottom, this county, February 23, 1862, a son of Thomas and Emeline D. (Haywood) Knight, natives of England. Thomas Knight, the paternal grandfather, came to Cass County at an early day, settling in the Sangamon Valley where he owned a large property. Mrs. Knight came to Cass County alone. After their marriage, Thomas Knight and wife settled in the Sangamon bottom and there resided until Mr. Knight retired from active labor, when they went to Beardstown, and there he died in August, 1902, and she in February, 1913. Their children were as follows: May, who is deceased; Robert H.; Minnie, who is Mrs. Fay Post, of Beardstown; John A., who is of Beardstown; Myrtle C., who is Mrs. L. W. Berry; Harry, who is deceased; and Edwin S. and Lloyd, who are both of Beardstown.

Robert Haywood Knight attended the district schools and Brown's Business College, Jacksonville, during 1882-3. After his marriage he moved to a farm six miles southwest of Virginia in Monroe Precinct, comprising 170 acres then owned by his father, and he lived in a log cabin there until 1891, when he built a fine modern residence on a natural building site well supplied with forest trees. He does general farming and hog raising and has been very successful. He was later given a part of the home place, and has added to it until he has 270 acres in one place, and has also 160 acres in township 17, range 10, and operates all his land.

On February 26, 1885, Mr. Knight married Hannah Alethia Thevagt, born in Cass County, December 10, 1859, a daughter of Henry and Minnie (Engle) Thevagt, natives of Germany, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Knight have had the following children: Carroll T., who was born June 7, 1891; Orville H., who was born March 2, 1893, is of California; Russel B., who was born September 16, 1895; and Adah Elizabeth, who was born October 23, 1896. Mr. Knight belongs to Providence Presbyterian church and has served it as a trustee since 1902. He is a Democrat and has held public office, was road district clerk, and also has been a school director. He is a man of wide interests and is influential in his neighborhood, ever foresighted and progressive in his farm industries, and his success is well merited.

KOEPPING, Richard E.—At Virginia, Ill., some of the most substantial and highly valued men are those who can claim as their birthplace some portion of the German Empire. One of these men is Richard E. Koepping, a prosperous baker of Virginia. He was born in Saxony, Germany, August 29, 1870, a son of William and Leonore (Gebhart) Koepping. Although only seventeen years old when he came to the United States, Mr. Koepping had already learned the trade of a baker, and locating immediately at Jacksonville, found employment in that city, later leaving it for Springfield in the same state, where he worked for six years prior to his coming to Virginia. This occurred in April, 1913, when he formed a partnership with Albert J. Link, and bought the bakery and lunch room owned by John Seiler. This connection continued until September, 1913, when Mr. Koepping bought out his partner, since then continuing alone, having his place of business on the west side of the square at Virginia. Mr. Koepping makes bread, cakes, pies, cookies, buns and other bakery goods, and specializes on all kinds of fancy baking, for banquets and parties, and also conducts a general lunch room and restaurant.

On April 6, 1896, Mr. Koepping married Lena Hoover, a daughter of Frederick and Barbara (Bebley) Hoover, and they have had six children born to them, namely: Louis, Marie, Louisa, Fred, Matilda and Pauline.

Fraternally Mr. Koepping belongs to the order of Ben Hur, and to the Modern Woodmen of

America, and the Odd Fellows. Religiously, he is a German Lutheran, belonging to the church of that faith at Virginia.

KRIEG, William, one of the responsible farmers of Cass County, has done much to raise agricultural standards in his vicinity, and can be depended upon to give his assistance to those movements which he deems will work out for the benefit of all. He was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, November 16, 1865, a son of Balthaser and Margaret (Kramer) Krieg, who were born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, in 1831 and on February 11, 1832, respectively. The family came to the United States in 1882, and two years after his arrival the father bought twelve acres of land in township 18, range 10, and lived upon this property until his death, August 27, 1895. His widow, the mother of William Krieg, still resides upon this place, although he bought it from her.

The educational training of William Krieg was received in Germany, but after his arrival here he located first at Chandlerville, Ill., where he worked as a farm laborer by the month for four years. Having saved some money, he then bought a farm of 104 acres, and cleared it of timber and brush, improving it and erecting excellent buildings upon it. He has also set out an orchard that is now very valuable. His farm now contains 104 acres.

In November, 1887, Mr. Krieg married Clara Anderson, born in Sweden, December 26, 1865, and they became the parents of the following children: Albert, Frederick, Howard, David, Errick, Nellie Theresa and Selma Oddel. For nine years he has been a school director, but has held no other office, and for fifteen years he has belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America. The German Lutheran church holds his membership. A hard worker, thrifty and practical, Mr. Krieg has steadily advanced and is justly recognized as one of the representative men of his neighborhood.

KROHE, Albert H., who is a well known and well-to-do farmer in the vicinity of Beardstown, is a native of Cass County, having been born on the Sangamon River bottom, township 18, range 11, n., June 9, 1864. His immediate ancestors were early settlers in this region, where they located in 1833, and Albert Krohe himself has been for a number of years prominently identified with its farming interests, and has also taken an active part in public affairs.

August Krohe, his father, who was a son of August Krohe, emigrated to the United States from Saxony, Germany, and his mother, Mary Korfmacker, born in Lippenhausen, Prussia, April 2, 1833, came to Cass County at the age of fifteen years. They were married here about 1854, and located on the Sangamon River bottom. August Krohe first rented land on the river bottoms, and later bought 528 acres in the same vicinity. There he carried on farming until 1888, when he moved to Beardstown, selling the land to his children. His wife died in August, 1894. Their children were as follows: Theodore, who died in January, 1913; Edward, who lives in township 18, range 11, Cass County; Matilda (Mrs. Louis Zimmer), of Jacksonville, Ill.; Albert H.; and Augusta (Mrs. Adam Shaeffer) of Beardstown.

Albert H. Krohe attended the Cottonwood district school, and also a school at Beardstown. He always lived on the home farm, and when the opportunity came purchased 240 acres from his father. In 1906 he built a roomy and handsome frame house, equipped with modern improvements, and is successfully engaged in general grain farming.

On October 18, 1888, Mr. Krohe was united in marriage with Maria Witte, born in township 18, range 11, Cass County, a daughter of Henry and Anna (Vette) Witte, natives of Germany. Their children are: Alfred, who resides in Beardstown, Ill., and Letha and Irl, both at home. Mrs. Krohe's father, Henry H. Witte, was born August 9, 1821, in Westphalia, Prussia, and became a resident of Beardstown in 1854. In 1856 he was married to Minnie Vette. He owned a fine farm in the Sangamon bottoms, where he died in 1902.

Mr. Krohe is a director of the First State Bank of Beardstown. He has served two terms as county commissioner, and was a school director for many years. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

KROHE, Frederick August, now living retired at Beardstown, was at one time one of the leading agriculturists of Cass County, where he is so well and favorably known. He was born in Saxony, Germany, December 2, 1832, a son of August and Christina (Jokisch) Krohe. On January 1, 1835, the family came to the United States, landing at New Orleans, having crossed the ocean on a sailing vessel, which consumed several weeks, during which time very rough weather was experienced. From New Orleans the little party started up the Mississippi River and on arriving at St. Louis took another boat for Beardstown. The voyage during the last stage took eight days. During the ensuing winter, the family remained at Beardstown, but in the following spring the father went into the country and bought land in what is called Jokisch settlement, and there Frederick August was reared. The parents both died on their farm at that point.

Frederick August Krohe attended the public and German schools, but had few educational advantages, but was taught to work. When he was twenty years old, he left the farm, and came to Beardstown, remaining with his grandfather for some months, when he went to the Sangamon River bottoms, where he and his wife worked hard and earned $140 with the help of his team of mules, in one year, quite an amount of money in those days. Following this he rented land and worked it until the death of his grandfather, when the land was sold, and he bought 108 acres in the Sangamon River bottoms, and began farming. At that time he



Jesse J. Sowers

had many head of horses and cattle, but practically no money, but he was an excellent manager, and soon was able to add to his holdings until he had 208 acres of land. Later he bought 280 acres along the bluff, with some in the bottoms, and in 1890 he purchased a lot at Beardstown, and on it had a comfortable frame house erected, in which he has since lived retired.

In 1853 Mr. Krohe married Mary Kortmacher, born in Prussia, Germany, who died about 1894, having borne him the following children: Theodore, who is deceased; Edward, who is of Cass County, lives on his father's old farm, which he bought; Matilda, who is Mrs. Louis Zimmer of Jacksonville; Albert H., who is of Cass County, lives on a farm he bought of his father; and Augusta, who is Mrs. Adam Shaeffer, of Beardstown. On September 15, 1901, Mr. Krohe married Minnie Reller, who was born at Beardstown, Ill., June 6, 1858, a daughter of Frederick and Louisa (Witte) Reller, he born in Hanover, Germany, and she in Prussia, Germany. They came to Beardstown when unmarried, there met and married. He was a carpenter by trade, and owned considerable property. The children of Frederick Reller and wife were: William, who is deceased; Minnie; Henry, who is of Beardstown, and Henry and Anna, both deceased. Mrs. Krohe was educated in the German and public schools of Beardstown. St. John's Lutheran church holds the membership of the family. In politics Mr. Krohe is a Democrat, and has served as school director for many years. He takes much interest in his five living children, and is proud of the fact that he has twenty-two grandchildren, fifteen of whom are boys, and eight great-grandchildren, all the boys bearing the name of Krohe, and may each develop into as fine a man as their great-grandfather.

KROHE, Henry C., was born in Beardstown, Ill., March 3, 1848, a son of August and Christiana (Jokisch) Krohe, natives of Saxony, Germany, who settled in Cass County in 1835, where both died. He remained with his parents until his marriage, December 19, 1871, attending the Buck district school in his youth. At the date above mentioned, he was married to Christiana M. Menge, born in Hesse, Germany, January 20, 1852, a daughter of John Zacharias and Marie Sophia (Meyer) Menge. They were farmers, and settled in Cass County in 1853, where both died. After his marriage, Henry C. Krohe moved to a portion of his Grandfather Jokisch's sixty-acre farm that his father had secured. There he always has resided, and has added to the area of the farm until it now comprises 192 acres, situated on sections 5 and 8. He carried on farming there until 1906, since which time his son, Felix Krohe, and Henry Hendricker have conducted it.

The children of Henry C. Krohe and his wife have been: Bertha Caroline, deceased, who was Mrs. Henry Muhlert, who had a daughter, Verna C., now deceased; Lydia C. S. (Mrs. Richard Launer), of Cass County, whose children are: Ralph K., Harvey H., Marvin T., Everett W., Violet L. and Gilbert W.; Rosina E., at home; Felix, of Cass County, who married Ida M. Hendricker, and they have Paul F., Maria A., Henrietta J., Arthur C., Philip H. and Edna A., deceased; Paulina, who died at the age of seventeen years; and Matilda L. (Mrs. Henry Hendricker), of Cass County, whose children are: Myrtle C., Rosa S., Homer K. and Irvin H. Mr. Krohe has always been connected with the Lutheran church. In politics he has acted with the Democratic party and served the public as a school director for many years.

KRUSE, David.—A favorably known and prosperous farmer and stockraiser of Cass County, Ill., who is successfully engaged in his chosen pursuits of tilling the soil and breeding cattle, in section 29, township 18, range 10, n., is David Kruse, and he is considered by his neighbors one of the substantial members of the community. Further particulars concerning the family relations of Mr. Kruse are contained on another page of this volume, in connection with a biography of his brother, Jacob Kruse.

David Kruse is a native of Cass County, and was born January 2, 1876. His father, Mythas Kruse, was born in Switzerland in 1826, and came to this country in 1855, and his mother, Sophie (Biehl) Kruse, was a native of Cass County.

In his youth, David Kruse attended the district school of the neighborhood whenever an opportunity offered, and helped his father carry on the work on the home place. After leaving school he applied himself to farming, bought the farm from his father's estate, and improved it himself. It consists of 140 acres of very fine land and is devoted to grain farming and the raising of choice stock, in which its owner has met with a good degree of success. The marriage of David Kruse took place January 1, 1914, on which date he was wedded to Ruth Carrie Maurer, born January 16, 1892, a native of Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Kruse are well liked by their neighbors, and all speak well of their good qualities.

KRUSE, Jacob, is among the youngest of the enterprising farmers of Cass County, Ill., of whom the pages of this volume make mention, but if his merits are to be estimated and judged by the results of his few years of work on his own responsibility, he surely deserves a creditable place in its chapters. Although barely thirty-four years of age he has made himself well known as an industrious, enterprising and successful agriculturist, and as an upright and useful member of the community in which he lives. He has spent his entire life within the limits of this county, and the people have had abundant opportunity to learn his good qualities and become familiar with the character of his work. No one has aught to say derogatory to him, and all his neighbors are ready with a word of commendation.

Jacob Kruse was born in Cass County, Ill.,

August 28, 1881, a son of Mathias and Sophia (Biehl) Kruse, the father a native of Switzerland, and the mother's birth taking place in Cass County. Of nine children born to his parents, Jacob was the sixth, and he remained with them during their lifetime. The mother died about 1894, and the father's death occurred in 1907. In boyhood, Jacob Kruse attended the Union district school a short time, and after his father's death worked the share of the home farm that was his portion. At length he sold out his interest, buying 150 acres in section 29 and 30, township 18, range 10, Cass County, which was partially improved, about twenty acres being pasturage and the rest cultivated land. Mr. Kruse is engaged in general grain farming and is besides a stock raiser. All his undertakings have been attended with success.

On March 31, 1910, Mr. Kruse was married to Pearl Davis, born in Cass County, Ill., a daughter of Frank and Jane C. (Davis) Davis. They have one son, Carlos Jacob, born January 23, 1914. The religious connection of Mr. Kruse is with the Cumberland Presbyterian church. In politics he acts with the Democratic party.

KUHLMAN, George F., who is largely interested in the business life of Beardstown, and is taking an important part in civic matters, is recognized as a representative man of Cass County. He was born in Cass County, March 28, 1871, a son of Casper and Mary (Stucke) Kuhlman, who were born in Lohne, Germany, and came to the United States in 1858, traveling direct to Cass County. They lived for some years in the Sangamon bottoms, and then bought a farm south of Beardstown. When his adopted country had need of his services during the Civil war, Casper Kuhlman enlisted in Company I, Third Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, and served eighteen months. Later he joined the regular army and saw much active service among the Indians. During all this time his family resided at Beardstown. After his terms of enlistment expired he returned to Beardstown and resumed his farm work. His death occurred June 12, 1888, and his wife passed away August 23, 1900. Their children were as follows: Minnie, who is deceased; Mary, who is Mrs. August Huss, of Jacksonville, Ill.; Louisa, who is Mrs. Charles Hoffer, of Beardstown, Ill.; Ella, who is Mrs. Benjamin Hiles of Cass County; Henry C., who died August 29, 1907, aged forty-one years; William H., who is of Crockett, Tex.; George F.; and Emma, who is Mrs. L. F. Crum, of Beardstown, her husband being an engineer on the C. B. & Q. Railroad.

George F. Kuhlman resided with his parents until he was twenty-three years old, and had but few educational advantages, those being confined to a short attendance in the district schools. After his marriage, he operated the homestead until 1900, when he bought the place of 320 acres, and carried on truck and general farming. In 1900 he bought his present residence at Beardstown, and since coming here was connected with the M. K. & T. Immigration Bureau, of St. Louis, Mo., until 1911; was also employed by Nelson & Finch of Peoria, Ill., in the produce business from 1900 to 1903; and from 1903 to 1905 conducted a feed and produce business, and then branched out in the real estate business. He served two years as city treasurer, and in November, 1908, was elected county commissioner and re-elected in 1911 and again in 1914. For eleven years he was overseer of the poor, and served for three years as a school director. Since 1909 he has been agent for the Studebaker automobiles. For years he has been a heavy shipper of watermelons and sweet potatoes. His agricultural prominence made him eligible for the secretaryship of the Chamber of Commerce, and he held that office for two years. A director of the Mutual Loan & Savings Association, he is now chairman of its appraising board, and he is also collector for the Clover Leaf Casualty Company, of Jacksonville. Fraternally, he belongs to Beardstown Lodge No. 1007, B. P. O. E.; Ark Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F., and the Court of Honor.

On August 24, 1893, Mr. Kuhlman married Clara Bolton, a daughter of Henry C. and Fannie (Stucke) Bolton, both natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Bolton lives at Jonesburg, Mo., but Mrs. Bolton died in 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Kuhlman have two children: Vilas C., who is now deputy county clerk of Cass County, and Gerald Lloyd, who is attending the University of Illinois at Champaign, Ill.

KUPFER, Louis R., manager of the local plant of the W. E. Terry Lumber Company, one of the biggest lumber concerns in the United States, is a man whose every day work justifies the confidence placed in him by his corporation, as well as the respect and honor in which he is held by the people of Beardstown where he resides. He was born in Saxony, Germany, May 12, 1875, a son of Fred and Augusta (Renert) Kupfer. The parents came to Cass County, Ill., in 1883, and rented a tract of land near Arenzville, where they carried on general farming until 1900, when they purchased a small tract at the edge of Beardstown, and there the mother died June 30, 1912. Their children were: Herman, who lives at Beardstown, is in the employ of the C. B. & Q. Railroad; Rheinhart, who is of Colekamp, Mo.; Louis R.; Otto, who is of Wayne County, Ill.; Albert; Bertha, who is Mrs. Fred Smith, of Phillips, Wis.; Minnie, who is the widow of C. H. Rewitz, of Meredosia, Ill.; and Lena, who is Mrs. Henry Holtman, of Lodge Pole, Nebr.

Louis Kupfer was educated in the district schools of Morgan County, and worked on the homestead until he was twenty years old, when he came to Beardstown, and entered the employ of a sawmill owned by Schmoldt Bros., remaining with them for nine months. He was then made yard foreman of their lumber yard which position he held for eight years, gaining much valuable experience, and then his services were demanded by the W. E. Terry Lumber Company.

So valuable a man did he become that on January 12, 1912, he was made manager of the local plant, and still holds that responsible position.

In June, 1898, Mr. Kupfer was married to Ida Evemeyer, a daughter of Casper and Rosa (Long) Evemeyer. They have two sons: Roy Louis, who was born March 25, 1910; and Carl Earl, who was born August 11, 1912.

LEBKUECHER, Charles A., a sueeessful farmer and stock raiser and stock feeder of section 6, township 18, range 11, is one of the substantial men of Cass County. He is a native son of the county, as he was born at Beardstown December 21, 1864, a son of Jacob and Catherine (Berkheiser) Lebkuecher, natives of Germany. Jacob Lebkuecher came from Germany to the United States when fifteen years old, making the trip alone. He worked in the neighborhood of Beardstown for a few years following his arrival, and then built a brewery and operated it for a number of years. In 1862 Catherine Berkheiser came from Germany with friends, and they were married at Beardstown. Still later, Jacob Lebkuecher learned farming, and he always made a success of whatever he undertook.

While attending the Beardstown schools, Charles A. Lebkuecher did some farming, and when older he moved to the property he now resides upon. It contains 350 acres of land, but he and his wife own more, as their mutual holdings amount to 670 acres. At one time he raised and fed from 200 to 300 cattle every year, but he has curtailed his operations to some extent. Mr. Lebkuecher has been called upon to settle three estates, the first amounting to about $70,000, another that amounted to $100,000, and the third somewhat smaller. He is a man of great energy, very industrious, never letting any time lie idle on his hands. A Democrat, he has served as a school director for two terms. The Lutheran church at Beardstown holds his membership and profits from his generosity.

Mr. Lebkuecher was married in Cass County to Lydia Meyer, born May 6, 1872, a daughter of Henry C. and Amelia (Boy) Meyer, natives of Germany and of Cass County, respectively. Mr. Meyer manufactured tile and brick and dealt in ice at Beardstown, and also looked after his farm, being a very substantial man. Mr. and Mrs. Lebkuecher have had the following children: Henry Alfred, Clara C., Marie E., Mildred, Glenna, Gladys, Carl and Jacob Gilbert.

LEEPER, Hon. Arthur Allen.—The history of Cass County contains no name of superior prominence to that of the Hon. Arthur Allen Leeper, who, as an attorney of highest standing, and statesman of marked ability, has made himself known to all the people whose interests he has so often ably represented. Mr. Leeper is a native son of the county, having been born on a farm near Chandlerville, August 21, 1855, a son of William D. and Mary (Runyan) Leeper.

After having passed through the schools of his district with credit, Mr. Leeper was graduated from the literary department of Eureka College in 1874, and then entering the law department of the Illinois State University, secured his degree in his graduation from that institution in 1875. Immediately thereafter he began practicing at Chandlerville, but in 1876 moved to Virginia, where he has since continued. In the fall of that year he was elected state's attorney of Cass County, and became so well and favorably known that he was the logical candidate of his party for state senator in 1888, and was elected to that office, succeeding himself for three terms and serving until 1900. In addition he has served Virginia as city attorney for several terms and has been a school director many years. He is one of the three commissioners, the others being J. C. Richburg and E. B. Smith, both of Chicago, appointed to confer with delegates from other states as to means for uniform legislation in all the states. This office is an honorary one, but carries high distinction with it. As a Freemason he stands high in the order, which he joined at Virginia.

In 1878 Mr. Leeper was married to Eva Howe, a daughter of Rufus Howe. Mrs. Leeper is a direct descendant of the colonist Miller, who founded Northhampton, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Leeper have three children: Mabel, Alice and Arthur L. Alice married Dr. Reed, a resident of Oklahoma, and a brother of Hon. C. C. Reed, who served in Congress for several terms from Arkansas.

LEINBERGER, John, an extensive and prosperous farmer and stockraiser, who has been a resident of Chandlerville, Cass County, somewhat more than forty years, has laboriously and patiently advanced towards the acquisition of a considerable amount of farming property, while becoming favorably known to the people of the great portion of the county as a substantial agriculturist and an upright and useful citizen. His birthplace was Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, where his life began October 20, 1846. Mr. Leinberger located in this vicinity in 1873, having enjoyed the opportunities of the German schools before he left the old country, and here applied himself to farm work. He first labored three years on rented land in township 18, range 9, by the month, and afterwards rented farms in various parts of the county until 1906. In that year he bought 320 acres of land, partly improved with some buildings. Mr. Leinberger has built a large barn, 50x50 feet in dimensions, 14 feet to the eaves and 28 feet in the middle, and also has built a tool, cowhouse and a cowshed, needed structures as he is extensively engaged in raising cows. He also raises horses and hogs, 160 acres of his land being under cultivation and the remainder in pasture.

On June 22, 1876, Mr. Leinberger was united in marriage with Anna Walker, born in Ohio, daughter of Frederick and Catherina (Poepple) Walker, natives of Wurttemberg, Germany.

Their grandparents, Frederick William and Anna Walker, settled in Ohio when the father of Mrs. Leinberger was an infant, and Mrs. Leinberger's mother located there at the age of twenty years. They lived there until 1857, and then moved to Illinois, settling at Jacksonville. The father, who was a carpenter, died May 15, 1908; the mother is still in Jacksonville. Mr. and Mrs. Leinberger have the following children: John, of Menard County, Ill.; Katie (Mrs. Henry Dotzert), of Cass County; Henry, of Menard County; Carl, at home; Mary (Mrs. Oscar Miller), of Cass County; Elizabeth and Edward, at home; Rudolph, who died when aged twenty-three years; Otto, at home; Martha, of Cass County; and Ernest and Elsie, both at home. The mother of this family received her early educational training in the public schools of Jacksonville. The family are members of the Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Leinberger acts with the Republican party.

LEONHARD, John Charles (deceased).—When a man passes from earthly existence he leaves behind him the results of his endeavor during life. If his aim has been high, and his purposes good, his memory is cherished and his family benefit from his labors. Such a man was the late John Charles Leonhard, of township 18, Cass County. He was born in Cass County, February 20, 1863, a son of Michael and Marie (Nickel) Leonhard, she a native of Hesse-Darmstadt and he born in Wein Heim, later a resident of Heidelberg. She came from Germany with her parents, and he with his mother, two sisters, and two brothers, and they were later married, locating at Beardstown, Ill., where the father was employed in the packing house. Later he bought a farm, and conducted it until his death, in the fall of 1893.

John Charles Leonhard remained with his parents until 1883, and received a district school education. In 1883, he and his sister Mary, settled on a farm which his father owned, comprising 110 acres in this same township. He lived there with his sister until she was married, and then he married and conducted it until his death, which occurred March 16, 1910. After his mother's death, in August, 1912, Mrs. John Charles Leonhard purchased the farm, and on it she, with the assistance of her son, continues to carry on general farming and stockraising. In political faith he was a Republican, but did not aspire to public office.

On November 28, 1888, Mr. Leonhard was married by Rev. James Stout of the Methodist church of Virginia, to Lillie Simms, who was born in Cumberland County, N. J., April 3, 1866, a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Grassman) Simms, natives of New Jersey, who came to Cass County in March, 1879, and lived on a farm for a few years. Then they went to Beardstown and he worked at the mason's trade until 1910, when he retired, and now he and wife are living at Beardstown. Mr. and Mrs. Leonhard had the following children: A babe that died in infancy; Emma M., Glenna and Zelma, who are school teachers; Floyd, who operates the homestead; and Annabel, Alma and Charles, who are also at home. Mrs. Leonhard is a Methodist and is interested in the good work of that church. She is an estimable lady and is highly respected.

LISTON, James Thomas, now deceased, was one of the prominent business men of Beardstown, and a veteran of the Civil war, a man whose good citizenship and many noble qualities won him the warm friendship of the best element of Cass County. He was born at Somerset, Ind., January 6, 1840, a son of Dr. James T. and Rachel (Way) Liston, the former born in Newcastle County, Del., in 1804, and the latter in South Carolina, May 14, 1818. They were married November 19, 1829, in Randolph County, Ind. A physician by profession, he ministered to many, and died in Indiana, March 13, 1894, having survived his wife since May 30, 1879.

In young manhood James Thomas Liston came to Cass County, Ill., and worked on a farm until he was able to secure one for himself, near Meredosia, Ill., where he remained until 1874, in which year he came to Beardstown and embarked in a general teaming business. Being appointed city marshal he served as such very acceptably for four years. About 1891 he opened a coal business which he conducted until his death, May 20, 1902. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company A, One Hundred and First Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was a wagon-master during General Sherman's memorable march to the sea, and he also participated in the grand review at Washington, D. C. Following this he was honorably discharged. Reared in the Baptist faith, he held to it, although not uniting with any congregation. He was a member of the A. O. U. W., and was a charter member of the M. W. A., at Beardstown.

On February 7, 1860, Mr. Liston married Miss Susan Catherine Harris, born at Pickton, O., April 19, 1839, a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Hodges) Harris, natives of Bordentown, N. J., and of Zanesville, Ohio, in a neighborhood where fine pottery is manufactured. Both located near Meredosia, Ill., where their marriage took place, and he became a raiser of fine horses. Mrs. Liston died September 10, 1913. She and her husband had children as follows: Mary R., who is of Beardstown; Charles L., who is of Peoria, Ill., married Adelia Weeks; Emma E., who is of Beardstown; and Samuel F., who married Norine Carter, and they reside in Beardstown. After the death of the father, Mary R. and Emma E. conducted the coal business, having office and sheds at No. 613 E. Sixth street, but now have it leased for one year. The family residence, which is a handsome one, is at No. 1011 Washington street, Beardstown.

LOOMANN, John B.—One of the oldest residents of Beardstown, Ill., and one of the best and most favorably known citizens of the community,



Ruth E Sowers

is John B. Loomann, who was born in Holland, September 29, 1842. His father, John Albert Loomann, with his mother, Minnie (Bemers) Loomann, landed in Beardstown in June, 1846. The father followed the trade of a plasterer on his arrival and thus continued during the remainder of his life, dying in 1863, his widow passing away October 18, 1894.

A notable period in the life of John B. Loomann was his term of service in the Union army during the Civil war, which covered a period of three years and one day. When a lad he attended the parochial schools and stayed with his parents until the time of his enlistment, which was on October 18, 1861. On that date he became a member of Company G, Thirty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged October 19, 1864. He was in the Army of the West, taking part in the battle of Shiloh; the siege of Corinth; Memphis; the Hatchie River; Vicksburg; and Jackson, Miss., and in February, 1864, participated in a raid through Mississippi, from Vicksburg to Meridian, destroying property on the march. Returning to Canton, Miss., the force burned the bridge there, the squad of thirty-five railroad engines which were on it at the time being plunged into the river. Thence Mr. Loomann's regiment went on to Atlanta, skirmishing constantly. On June 27, 1864, during the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Mr. Loomann was wounded in the left leg by a gunshot which passed through the limb, after which he was discharged, and returned to Beardstown. He was, in course of time, employed as a carpenter, and for nineteen years worked in the C., B. & Q. Railroad shops, where, for eight years, he had charge of a crew of carpenters. Quitting this connection in 1899, he followed his trade in the city until 1913, when he retired from active life.

On June 4, 1868, Mr. Loomann was united in marriage with Maria Barbara Scheurle, born in Wurttemberg, Germany, November 15, 1846, a daughter of Ludwig C. Scheurle, and an orphan from the age of nine years. The children resulting from this union were as follows: John Gotlieb, born June 19, 1869, died February 28, 1870; John Frederick, born November 20, 1870, died December 20, 1872; Lydia Maria, born October 11, 1872 (Mrs. William Yeagow), of Beardstown; Gustaf Adolph, of Beardstown, born March 21, 1875; Minnie Elizabeth, born January 26, 1877 (Mrs. Rev. N. K. C. Vetter), of Junction City, Kans.; Frederick William, born December 3, 1878, died January 12, 1879; Marie Frederika, of Sheridan, Wyo., born May 15, 1880; Henry William, of Beardstown, born October 25, 1882; Edward T., of Chicago, born July 24, 1884; Clara Emma, of Chicago, born November 3, 1886; and Freda Rinetta A., born November 28, 1888, died June 23, 1890.

In religious belief Mr. Loomann is a Lutheran and has served as a deacon in the church for thirty-seven years, and as cashier for eighteen years. In politics he acts with the Progressive party. He is a man of high character, and is greatly respected by a wide circle of acquaintances.

LOVEKAMP, Christian, an enterprising and thrifty farmer living in Arenzville, Ill., whose farm is situated in township 17, range 11, Cass County, was born in the same township, October 16, 1878, a son of Henry and Louisa (Breyer) Lovekamp, natives of Germany. The grandfather, Frederick Lovekamp, became a resident of Cass County when the father of the subject of this sketch was an infant. After reaching the United States, he and his family journeyed to Cass County, Ill., by way of St. Louis, settling in the vicinity of Arenzville. When the parents of Christian Lovekamp were married and had located on a farm in Cass County, Grandfather Lovekamp started back to the old country, and died on the ocean. The land originally occupied by the family was unimproved, although it was large in extent. Henry Lovekamp died in Arenzville, April 10, 1913, having lived there since 1905. His wife died February 16, 1908. The children of Henry and Louisa Lovekamp were as follows: Fred, of Bluffs, Scott County, Ill.; Charles, of Lee County, Ill.; Elizabeth (Mrs. William Nobis); Augusta (Mrs. Charles Nobis); George, of Cass County; Amelia, who died at the age of two years; and Christian and Amanda (Mrs. Fred Klemschmidt), both of Cass County.

Christian Lovekamp attended the district school and the German Lutheran school in his youth, and remained with his parents until he was married. He was wedded on February 25, 1904, to Lydia Roegge, born in Cass County, Ill., a daughter of George and Mary (Schroeder) Roegge. After his marriage Mr. Lovekamp rented a farm from his father-in-law. In 1906 he moved to the home of his wife's parents, with whom he remained until their death, when 200 acres of land was inherited by his wife. Mr. Lovekamp bought eighty acres in Cass County, and 120 acres in Morgan County, all adjoining, but he operates his wife's farm only, renting out the rest. Besides grain farming, he is engaged in raising stock, and is successful in all his undertakings. He has remodeled the dwelling on the home farm, making it thoroughly modern. Mr. and Mrs. Lovekamp have four children: Alma, born December 14, 1904; Lawrence, born November 22, 1906; Harold, born March 21, 1908; and Margaret, born January 24, 1911.

In politics Mr. Lovekamp acts with the Democratic party. He has served as road commissioner, and has filled the office of school director since 1909. He is a useful member of the community, and a farmer of sound judgment. He is a director of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Arenzville, Ill., and a director of the Jacksonville Monument Company of Jacksonville, Ill.

LOVEKAMP, Herman Henry, is a well known farmer in Cass County, Ill., who operates a farm of about 280 acres on the Sangamon River

bottoms, in township 19, range 9, near Chandlerville. Mr. Lovekamp is one of a family which is among the oldest in Cass County in period of residence, his paternal grandfather having been one of its earliest settlers. Herman H. Lovekamp was born at Arenzville, February 15, 1866. His parents were Herman Henry and Mary (Peters) Lovekamp, the father born in Cass County, and the mother a native of Germany. After their marriage they settled on a farm in the vicinity of Arenzville, and since 1910 have made their home in that village. They have ten children now living, of whom Herman Henry is the third in succession. He attended the Hackman district school in his youth and also the Union Grove district school and the German school at Arenzville. He continued to live with his parents until he reached the age of thirty-four years, and then moved to a farm belonging to his father, as before mentioned. The farm which Mr. Lovekamp operates is devoted to the raising of grain, about 160 acres being under cultivation, and the remainder in pasture and timber.

On May 17, 1900, Mr. Lovekamp was married to Augusta Eichenauer, born in the township where they live, a daughter of Rudolph and Helena (Schneider) Eichenauer, the father being a German by birth, and the mother born in Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Lovekamp have two children, namely: Clara Margaret, born March 30, 1901, and Lula Marie, born September 20, 1903. The religious connection of the family is with the Lutheran church. In politics, Mr. Lovekamp acts with the Democratic party. He has served the public as school director since 1910. Mr. Lovekamp is a man of many good traits of character, and is much respected among his numerous acquaintances.

LOVEKAMP, Louis Fred, a successful and experienced grower of grain, is justly numbered among the substantial agriculturalists of township 17, range 11, this county. He was born in this township, August 19, 1867, a son of Christian and Mary (Wedeking) Lovekamp, natives of Prussia, Germany. The grandfather, Everett Wedeking, came to Cass County in 1833, when Mrs. Lovekamp was seven years old. Christian Lovekamp, who was born December 2, 1818, learned the blacksmithing trade in Germany, and in young manhood came to the United States, working at his trade for a time in New Jersey, but later came to Arenzville, this county, where he conducted a blacksmith shop for some years. He then bought a large farming property, and added to it, and when he died, January 16, 1904, owned and was operating 400 acres. His wife, who was born February 14, 1827, died February 23, 1914. Their children were as follows: Edward, who is of Peoria, Ill.; Mary, who is the widow of William C. Hagener, lives at Beardstown; Sophia, who is Mrs. Henschen, of Beardstown; George, who lives in Cass County; Henry C., who is living on a part of the home place; Lonisa, who is the wife of Rev. H. F. Eggert, a Lutheran preacher; and Louis Fred.

Louis Fred Lovekamp has always lived on the homestead of his parents, and has always carried on grain farming. After his marriage, he took charge of 244 acres that he bought from his father, and they all lived together until the death of the parents. He has added forty acres to his holdings, all of which land is under cultivation except about forty acres in timber.

On August 15, 1895, Mr. Lovekamp was married to Christina Lovekamp, born in Cass County, a daughter of Herman and Mary (Peters) Lovekamp, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Lovekamp became the parents of the following children: Ada, Esther, Clarence and Harry, all of whom are at home. Mr. Lovekamp attended the public schools of his district and the German school, and is much interested in educational matters, having served as a school director for twelve years. In politics he is a Republican, while religiously he is a member of the Lutheran church. In addition to his farming interests, Mr. Lovekamp is a director of the Arenzville & Hagener Grain Company. A man of solid business qualities, he has increased his holdings and gained a strong position in his neighborhood.

LOWDEN, Robert Haskell, who is one of the most substantial farmers and prominent and useful citizens of Cass County, Ill., is the owner of a fine farm of 360 acres of fertile land in township 17, range 9, where, besides general farming, he is extensively engaged in raising Duroc Jersey hogs, draft and road horses, and shorthorn and Aberdeen cattle. He has been farming in the same vicinity for nearly thirty-five years, and besides his large and successful operations in this line, has taken an intelligent and lively interest in the public affairs of Cass County, being now in his second term as county commissioner.

Robert H. Lowden is a native of New Brunswick, and was born at St. Andrews, June 2, 1856, a son of Edward Parkinson and Emma (Castles) Lowden, the father born near Killarney, Ireland, and the mother being of Scottish birth. Both located in New Brunswick when young. For five years Edward P. Lowden served as mate of an ocean sailing vessel, and then applied himself to farming in New Brunswick. This he continued until 1848, going then to Illinois, whence, in 1849, he went to California, by ox and mule team from Rushville. Remaining three years in California, he returned by way of Panama to New Orleans, and up the Mississippi River and back again to New Brunswick. There, in 1854, he was married to Emma Castles. After farming till 1868, he moved to Schuyler County, Ill., and continued farming. He died in 1883, his wife having passed away in 1870. Their children were as follows: Robert H.; Catherine, of Salinas, Cal.; John, of Arizona; and James, of Cass County, Ill.

Robert H. Lowden attended the district

schools in his youth and spent one term in the Rushville public schools. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-one years old, then worked on farms in Schuyler County until 1877, when he located in Cass County, working for others until 1881. In that year he began farming for himself just south of Philadelphia, Ill., and after remaining there three years, moved to his present place.

Mr. Lowden was married October 6, 1880, in Cass County, by Rev. Granberry Garner, of the Methodist church, to Bertha Grace Darland, a native of Kentucky. She is a daughter of Strother and Mary (Burton) Darland, both born in Kentucky, and died in Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Lowden have the following children: Maude, Mrs. William T. Melvin, of Philadelphia, Ill.; Walter, of Cass County, Ill., married Luella McGoldrich; Mary, Mrs. Nathaniel Wright, of the same address; Ola, Mrs. Benjamin Bell, also of Cass County; and Georgie, at home. In church relationship, Mr. Lowden is a Presbyterian. Politically, he acts with the Democratic party. In 1910 he was elected a county commissioner, and in the fall of 1913, was re-elected. His fraternal affiliations are with the M. W. A. and the I. O. O. F., of the city of Virginia. He is a model farmer, and is considered one of the foremost members of the community in which he lives.

LUCAS, Allen Thurman.—The legal profession has many able exponents in Cass County, but no one lives up more fully to the ethics of his calling than does Allen Thurman Lucas, of Chandlerville, whose name has become a synonym for honorable methods and a high order of ability. He was born six miles east of Chandlerville on the farm of his father, January 16, 1879, a son of William D. and Sarah C. (Underbrink) Lucas, the former born near Chandlerville, Ill., March 6, 1851, and the latter born near Alton, Ill., September 19, 1852. The parents are living near Bath, Ill., where the father carries on a real estate and insurance business. The paternal grandfather, William Lucas, was a soldier in the Black Hawk war, while the maternal grandfather, William Underbrink, was a soldier for three years in the Civil war, serving in the Union army.

Allen Thurman Lucas attended the Illinois College at Jacksonville, Ill., and the University of Illinois, and was graduated from the Bloomington Law School, June 15, 1906, with the degree of LL. B. He earned the money for his collegiate courses by working on the farm until nineteen years old, and afterward taught school. After his graduation from the law school, Mr. Lucas began the practice of his profession at Virginia, Ill., in November, 1906, but moved to Chandlerville, October 24, 1910. In 1908 he was elected state's attorney of Cass County, on the Democratic ticket, and re-elected to the same office in 1912. While in college he represented, with two other students, the State of Illinois in joint debate against the State of Indiana, at Bloomington, and won the debate. Since he was nineteen years old, Mr. Lucas has campaigned for his party, and has won an enviable reputation as a speaker. In 1900 he became a member of the Chandlerville lodge of Knights of Pythias; in 1908 he became a member of the Virginia lodge of Modern Woodmen of America; in 1900 he joined the Chandlerville lodge of Court of Honor; in 1912 he became a member of the Virginia Red Men of America, and in 1913, he joined the Chandlerville lodge of Odd Fellows. Mr. Lucas belongs to the Chandlerville Christian church.

On June 15, 1905, Mr. Lucas was married at Springfield, Ill., to Josephine Sarff, a daughter of Abner and Cynthia (Lindsay) Sarff. Mrs. Lucas was born near Chandlerville, Ill., in Mason County, November 10, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas have one daughter, Fae Robertine Lucas, born June 9, 1906. Well versed in the law, brilliant in his capabilities, and a man of unblemished character, Mr. Lucas has a very promising future before him. Already he is recognized as one of the leading men of his party and community, and his fearless course as state's attorney has made his name known throughout his section as one who does his duty no matter what the cost may be, or what influences may be brought to bear against him.

LUCAS, Thomas Alva.—Agriculture is one of the oldest occupations in the world, and will continue to be one of the most important as long as men require foodstuffs. Many of the leading Cass County men are devoting their energies towards supplying the need of the nation for the products of the farm, and among them is Thomas Alva Lucas, of township 17, range 11. He was born near Chandlerville, this county, September 7, 1885, a son of Thomas and Elsie Lucas, natives of Cass County, the latter of whom died in 1897. The father was a farmer for many years and still owns a rural property seven miles east of Chandlerville, but he now lives retired at Chandlerville.

Thomas Alva Lucas was the eighth child in the family of eleven children born to his parents, and was brought up on the farm, and educated at the Oak Grove district school. He remained on his father's farm until his marriage. This occurred May 18, 1903, when he was united with Emma Hofrock, born in Cass County, in Beardstown Precinct, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Trone) Hofrock, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas have had the following children: Harry, Ella, Stella and Floyd.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lucas moved to the farm of 120 acres on which she was born, which is now owned by them. Mr. Lucas produces large crops of watermelons, has about sixty acres in grain, and, as he raises both cattle and hogs, keeps fifty acres for pasturage. In politics he is a Democrat, but has held no official positions. For years he has been a consistent member of the Baptist church of Oak Grove. An intelligent farmer, excellent citizen, and public-spirited man, Mr. Lucas is steadily forging ahead and deserves the success which has come to him.

LYLES, Albert R., M. D.—Few members of the medical profession in Cass County have stood higher than Dr. Albert R. Lyles, of Virginia, now one of the leaders among the physicians and surgeons of his locality. He was born in Allen County, Ky., July 10, 1861, a son of Moses M. and Sarah J. (Walker) Lyles, natives of Allen County, Ky., where they died. The paternal great-grandfather was a native of the state of Virginia. Like many of southern birth, Dr. Lyles is very proud of his family history, and takes an interest in historical matters to the extent of belonging to the Illinois State Historical Society.

The Lyles family is probably of Norman extraction, and of the Landed Gentry of England. The lineage of the family branch of which Doctor Lyles is a member, traces back to Edmund Lyles, Esq., of Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire, England, who was Sewer to Edward VI, Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth and King James I of England.

Albert R. Lyles attended the public schools and academy of his native place, following which he was a school teacher for three terms. He then engaged in a mercantile business in Coles County, Ill., for three years, but not desiring to confine himself to a business life, he sold his interests and began studying medicine, being graduated in 1890 from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at St. Louis, Mo. Following the securing of his degree, Dr. Lyles began practicing, first in Coles County, but later at Beardstown, and after six years there, came to Virginia, where he has become one of the leading citizens. Keeping fully abreast of the times, Dr. Lyles belongs to the Cass County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and was first president of the first named body, which he is now serving as treasurer, Dr. T. G. Charles of Beardstown, being the present secretary.

Dr. Lyles is a member of the A. F. & A. M., the K. of P., and the Modern Woodmen of America, and is the medical examiner of the last named order. The Presbyterian church holds his membership, and benefits by his sage advice and generous donations. Not only has Dr. Lyles been prominent in his profession and in fraternal matters, but he served Virginia for two years as mayor, being elected in 1901.

The marriage of Dr. Lyles occurred in Cass County when he was united with Stella L. Pendleton, a daughter of Arthur M. and Hester (Hewitt) Pendleton. Mrs. Lyles is a member of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Springfield (Illinois) Chapter. Her great-great-grandfather, Colonel James Pendleton, Jr., of Culpeper County, Va., was for many years a representative of Culpeper County in the House of Burgesses and the State Legislature under the Commonwealth; a colonel in the Continental army, and also for many years a vestryman and warden of St. Mark's Parish, Virginia. He was of the eighth generation in line of direct descent from George Pendleton, Esq., of the town of Pendleton, Lancashire, England, where the family was well known in public life during the reign of Henry VIII. Dr. and Mrs. Lyles have two children: Miriam Eunice, and Pauline Lavinia, both of whom are attending the Virginia public schools.

LYNN, Charles C.—Among the well known agriculturists whose labors have contributed to the prosperity and general welfare of Cass County, Ill., no list would be complete without mention of the subject of the following biographical narrative, whose residence address is Chandlerville, Ill., R. F. D. No. 1. Charles C. Lynn, whose name furnishes the caption hereof, is the owner of 140 acres of very desirable land in this county, situated in section 25, township 19, range 9. On this he successfully conducts general farming operations, and devotes a portion of his time to the raising of stock, in which also he has met with success. Mr. Lynn is a native of Cass County, where his birth occurred October 25, 1855. His father, who also carried on farming, was John A. Lynn, born in Sangamon County, Ill., and his mother was Elizabeth (Hickey) Lynn, a native of Cass County, Ill.

In early youth Charles C. Lynn went to the public school, where he received a fair, practical education, after which he continued for a time to be of service to his father on the parental farm. The marriage of Mr. Lynn took place in Cass County, Ill., on March 13, 1875, on which date he was united to Miss Mary E. Wilcox, whose birth occurred in Mason County, Ill., March 3, 1853. Her father was Samuel Wilcox, a Kentuckian by nativity, while her mother's name was Rachael (Rodger) Wilcox, born in Illinois. Their children, eight in number, are as follows: George O., born March 18, 1876; Samuel F., born March 14, 1877; Bertha Bell, born May 15, 1880; Martha Jane, born March 22, 1882; Robert P., born March 24, 1887; Ellsworth P., born July 25, 1889; Hattie Beulah, born March 7, 1892; and John C., born March 13, 1894.

Mr. Lynn has never taken any active interest in politics and never had a craving for office. He is, however, a steadfast Republican on national questions. He has not connected himself with any religious denomination, but his wife is an adherent of the Baptist church, which those of the family who are at home attend. He is a quiet and deliberate man, and might be properly described as easy going in manner, though firm in character.

LYNN, Joseph C., a prosperous grain farmer and stockraiser of township 19, range 8, resides on 240 acres of fine land on section 20. He was born in Cass County, Ill., March 28, 1873, a son of T. T. Lynn, born in Sangamon County, Ill., December 15, 1830, and his wife Letitia (Hickey) Lynn, born in Menard County, April 7, 1832.

T. T. Lynn, a well known farmer and stockraiser, is a son of the man who introduced shorthorn cattle into Cass County. A pioneer of the region, the grandfather of Joseph C. Lynn, came here in the spring of 1831, from the vicin-



William B. Stebbins

ity of Pleasant Plains, Sangamon County, Ill. The grandmother came to Illinois, from Tennessee, in 1831 accompanying her husband to Cass County, the trip being made in a covered wagon, she riding a portion of the way on horseback. T. T. Lynn accumulated all but 125 acres of his immense estate after coming to Cass County. He saw some very high water in 1844, and had many interesting and unusual experiences in those early days. He broke prairie land with six-head of oxen drawing his plow which was first made with a wood moldboard, but later he used a rod moldboard. At the time of the family settlement in the county, there were plenty of deer, turkeys and wolves. After the arrival of the family in Cass County they lived in a log house built on 167 acres of land, but the holdings now amount to 965 acres in Cass County and 160 acres in Mason County. Mrs. T. T. Lynn died January 14, 1893, and was buried in the Hickey cemetery. The children of T. T. and Letitia Lynn were: Francis, deceased, buried in Hickey cemetery; and John C., Letitia, Sally A., James W., Timothy T., Jr., Mary B. and Joseph C.

Joseph C. Lynn was educated in the schools of his neighborhood, and learned farming in his boyhood and has followed that vocation all of his mature years. He is now living on 240 acres of the estate, the original homestead. He belongs to Chandlerville Lodge No. 724, A. F. & A. M., and DeWitt Chapter No. 119, R. A. M. For some years the Oakford Methodist church has held his membership. In politics he is a Republican.

On March 29, 1894, Mr. Lynn was married in Cass County, to Jennie E. Smith, born in Morgan County, Ill., September 5, 1870, a daughter of Isaac Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Lynn have had the following children: Joseph V., born February 8, 1895; Letitia, born August 14, 1896; Stanley C., born March 29, 1898; Harold W., born September 8, 1899; Marion D., born February 26, 1904; Richard N., born February 19, 1907; Ruth E., born November 29, 1909; and Marjorie E., born June 6, 1902, died August 29, 1903, buried in Hickey cemetery.

LYNN, J. W. (Billy), a progressive farmer, stock raiser and breeder, is setting an excellent example to other agriculturalists of Cass County on his 200 acres of land, in section 29, township 19, range 8. He was born in Cass County, October 30, 1865, a son of T. T. and Letitia (Hickey) Lynn, the former born in Sangamon County, Ill., December 15, 1830, and the latter in Cass County, Ill., April 7, 1832. The father was a farmer and stockraiser. His life is treated of at length elsewhere in this work.

J. W. (Billy) Linn was educated in the schools of his district, and was brought up on a farm. His 200 acres are named the Shick-Shack farm after a tribe of Indians that used to camp on the site of his residence. They obtained their water from the spring that now supplies the Lynns with water for family use as well as for the stock. Mr. Lynn is interested in breeding blooded stock, and this line of endeavor has been followed by members of this family for several generations, his grandfather having been the first to introduce shorthorn cattle into Cass County. In politics Mr. Lynn is a Republican and has served as a school trustee and county central committeeman, and for twenty years has been a judge of election. He belongs to Chandlerville Lodge No. 724, A. F. & A. M., which he has served as master; DeWitt Chapter, R. A. M. No. 119; and for the last eight years has been a member of St. Aldemar Commandery No. 47, K. T., of Petersburg. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lynn are members of the Eastern Star. In religious faith the family are Methodists.

On October 1, 1891, Mr. Lynn was married by Rev. R. D. Miller, near Athens, Ill., in Menard County, to Luella May Worth, born March 20, 1869, in Menard County, a daughter of Edmond and Lucinda (Turner) Worth. Mr. and Mrs. Lynn have had the following children: Anna Irene, born July 11, 1892, married Miles F. Lounsberry, and they have a daughter, Dorothy May; Russell Moore, born October 28, 1896; Abbie Adell, born June 2, 1901; Letitia May, born December 30, 1903; William Worth, born September 28, 1906; and Zeta Josephine, born July 15, 1908.

LYNN, Robert T.—With some of the farms of western Illinois are connected family names which have been familiarly associated with their ownership and operation since an early period in the settlement of the state. Among these is the one situated in the vicinity of Oakford, Cass County, which lies in section 29, township 19, range 8, and is the property of Robert T. Lynn. On this three successive generations of the same kindred have lived and prospered. Here was the home of William P. Lynn, father of the present owner, born in Cass County, Ill., February 17, 1835, the maiden name of whose wife, a native of Ohio, was Nancy Clark. In the early days of Robert Lynn's father, wild animals were abundant throughout this entire region, and on the prairies were numbers of wolves, deer, wild turkeys, etc. Game was plentiful, and hunting was a common sport. William P. Lynn followed farming here during his active life.

Robert T. Lynn was born in Cass County, Ill., September 6, 1867. In boyhood he attended the country schools and afterwards devoted his time to the assistance of his father in the work of the farm, which is composed of 306 acres, 240 acres being tillable and 66 acres yet in pasture and timber. On December 20, 1888, Robert T. Lynn was united in marriage with Rosa M. Mcauley, whose birth took place in Cass County, Ill., August 31, 1870. Her father was William H. Mcauley, a native of Scotland, where he was born November 15, 1803, and her mother was Mary E. Pickard, born in Nashville, Tennessee, January 31, 1845. The children of R. T. Lynn and wife are four in number, born in the following order: Elbridge L., August 8, 1892; Or-

lando E., June 15, 1894; Kenneth W., April 10, 1899; and Nevins R., May 31, 1908.

Politically Robert T. Lynn is connected with the Republican party. He has served as school director for nine years, and as commissioner of Levee District of Middle Creek, No. 2 since 1903. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Court of Honor, and in religious belief he adheres to the faith of the Methodist church. Mr. Lynn is a man of fine traits of character, and affable in his intercourse with all his neighbors. His amiable temper and pleasant disposition make him an agreeable associate wherever his acquaintance extends.

MANN, Robert Henry, proprietor of the Mann Hotel and the leading photographer of Cass County, is a man well known throughout this section of the country. He was born at Wilmington, Ill., January 29, 1859, a son of Henry Thomas and Matilda (Stevens) Mann. After receiving a liberal public school education at Delavan, Ill., Mr. Mann began studying photography, and has made it his life work. On July 29, 1879, he purchased the photograph business of Judge C. H. Cummins, located in the Gridley building, but desiring more extensive quarters, he bought the old Presbyterian church at Virginia, and remodeled it, fitting it up as a modern studio and photo-art gallery, now having one of the best establishments of the kind in the state. His instruments and appliances are of the latest design, and he does photography of all kinds, specializing on enlarging, sepia, water color, pastel, india ink and crayon work. His brush instrument equipment is especially complete.

In the meanwhile, during the fall of 1886, Mr. Mann bought an old building and the corner on which it stood, opposite the courthouse, and in 1896 built upon it his modern brick hotel of twenty-five rooms, fitting it with steam heat, electric light and private baths. In four of the rooms there are additional baths, and in all of the others there is running hot and cold water. The cuisine is excellent and this hostelry is recognized as the best at Virginia.

In 1892 Mr. Mann became a Mason, joining the Virginia lodge, serving it as master for several years, and he also represented the lodge in the Grand Lodge from 1894 to 1900. A man of public affairs, he has represented his ward in the city council, and during 1901 and 1902 he was mayor of Virginia.

On February 28, 1882, Mr. Mann was married at Virginia, Ill., to Margaret (Dobson) Hickox. She was born in Missouri and died June 1, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Mann had no children of their own, but Mr. Mann adopted the daughter of his wife by her first marriage, Myrtle Hickox, and also his niece, Dolly Mann. They reside with Mr. Mann, having charge of his household.

MARCUSSEN, Jens, a prosperous farmer and stockraiser of Cass County, stands as high in public esteem as any of his fellow agriculturalists, and owns 344 acres of valuable farm land. Mr. Marcussen was born at Skodburg, Denmark, August 16, 1863, a son of Peter and Ellen Catherine (Dahl) Marcussen, natives of the same place as their son. The father was a farmer, who spent his life in Denmark, and was a soldier in the memorable war of 1849, which preserved the national life of Denmark.

Jens Marcussen received his educational training in his native land, and worked on the farm and learned the carpenter and bricklaying trades. After his arrival in the United States in 1882, he went to work as a farm hand, later farming on his own account in Menard County, Ill., for five years, when he moved to Cass County, and bought his present farm of 344 acres, which he is operating very successfully. He has 160 acres in section 29, township 18, range 8, and 184 acres in sections 14-15, range 10.

Mr. Marcussen was married in Morgan County, Ill., to Miss Josephine Hickey, born in Cass County, March 15, 1871, a daughter of Seth and Kizzia (Gooden) Hickey, natives of Cass County, Ill., and Indiana, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Marcussen became the parents of the following children: Clarence G., Edna M., Nellie I., Gracie D., Alice N., Russell J., Walter V., Hazel M., all living at home, and one who is deceased. Mr. Marcussen is a man of much enterprise and conducts his work according to modern methods. He is kind by nature, has generous inclinations and has friends everywhere he is known, and all speak a good word for him.

MARSHALL, James, an early settler of Cass County, was born near Edinburg, Scotland, on the Firth of Fourth, in 1777. Desirous of seeing for himself the wonders of the New World, he left home at eighteen years of age, contrary to the wishes of his father, who promptly disinherited him. The vessel on which he sailed for the promised land was shipwrecked, the crew and passengers being picked up by a French privateer. They were relieved of all money and valuables, Mr. Marshall, however, retaining six guineas which he managed to secrete in his boot. He was left a prisoner on the Island of Teneriffe, in charge of a French wine merchant and his wife, who took a very kindly interest in the welfare of the young stranger. Knowing his ambition to reach America, they finally secured passage for him, at much risk to themselves, on a ship laden with wines for that port. A sufficient supply of their fine vintage—second only to that of the Madeira Islands—was given him to pay for his transportation, with a generous sum over for emergencies.

On arriving at Philadelphia, Pa., the young man accepted the first employment presenting itself, that of a wheelwright, and went to work with a will. He soon after met and married Miss Martha Clutch, the daughter of a well-established family. His people were apprised of this event, and the father, relenting, sent his

enterprising son a bag of gold. With this substantial assistance, Mr. Marshall removed to Lexington, Ky., and invested his money in shipping the products of the country by means of flat boats to the market at New Orleans, La.

The family of eight children born to him in Lexington are all deceased, the dates of their birth and death following: Elizabeth, born in 1807, died in 1829; Margaret, born in 1808, died in 1845; James, Jr., born in 1810, died in 1848; John, born in 1811, died in 1855; William, born in 1813, died in 1846; Martha, born in 1815, died in 1874; Maria, born in 1817, died in 1854; Charles, born in 1819, died in 1859.

When the youngest child was two years old the mother died, and other misfortunes followed. Our prosperous merchant "went security" for a friend—as was the custom of that day—and lost a large part of his newly acquired wealth. Another trusted friend, a canny Scot from his own land, was sent to the southern market in charge of a valuable cargo, and from this expedition nothing was ever heard. His treasury thus depleted, liabilities accumulated, but his loyal business associates saved him the humiliation of imprisonment for debt, according to the law then in force in Kentucky. Soon after this trying period, Mr. Marshall sold his property, reimbursed his noble friends, and, in 1825, with his remaining household goods in two wagons, drawn by four-horse teams, turned his face toward Illinois, firm in the resolve to begin life anew as an independent tiller of the soil. Wisely choosing the fertile fields of Cass County for a future home, he entered a tract of land along the present Cass and Morgan county line, to which were gradually added other lands and improvements, until each of his children were provided with a farm of their own.

The marriage, in 1827, of Elizabeth, the eldest daughter, to Peter Conover, who came from Kentucky two years before, was the first wedding ceremony said in the township containing the Marshall home. James, the eldest son, married Miss Martha Lindsay Moore, of Ohio, whom he met while she was visiting with friends in this vicinity. Similar romantic conditions characterized the courtship of the other three brothers, who also won Ohio girls for wives.

In 1839, Mrs. Elizabeth Nisbet and family came from Preble County, Ohio, and took up their residence in the Providence neighborhood, a few miles from the Marshall farm, and were instrumental in founding the Providence Presbyterian church, still in existence, and otherwise adding materially to the standing of this community. With the advent of Mrs. Nisbet came the first upholstered carriage seen in this rural settlement. Her daughter, Miss Mary I. Nisbet, was accompanied by a friend, Miss Elizabeth Clutch, of Lebanon, Ohio, and in the same party was Miss Melinda Simmons, whose parents were enroute to a new home in Beardstown, Ill. The Marshall brothers fell immediate victims to the charms of this trio of fair maidens, and the attraction proved mutual. John Marshall married Mary I. Nisbet; William chose Elizabeth Clutch for his life partner, and Charles wedded Melinda Simmons. Of the three remaining daughters of Mr. Marshall, Margaret became Mrs. Peter Redding, Martha, Mrs. Henderson Massey, and Maria, Mrs. James Ross.

James Marshall was reared in an atmosphere of good old Scotch Presbyterian faith, which was an element in the formation of his children's character. He was a thrifty, energetic man of much individuality, strongly endowed with native stick-to-it-iveness, which enabled him to achieve a fair share of success. Death claimed him in 1842, after sixty-five well spent years. His sons and daughters are now dead, and their descendants widely scattered. Only one representative of the family remains in this section, in the person of Mrs. William T. Price, second daughter of William and Elizabeth Marshall, who with her husband, still owns the old homestead, surrounded by the maple trees planted by her father in 1844, which still remain a monument to pioneer taste and forethought.

MARTIN, Judge Charles Æsop, was born in Richmond Precinct, Cass County, Ill., November 4, 1857. His father, John Martin, was born in the state of Pennsylvania in 1829, of Scotch-Irish parentage. His mother's maiden name was Rose Ann Turner, a daughter of James U. Turner and Julia (Romig) Turner. James Turner's ancestry was English and Julia Romig's parents were Germans. Charles Martin was born on a farm which was owned by his father and comprised eighty acres in section 8, township 18, north range 8 west, in Cass County, just above Middle Creek, the western part of the farm running almost to the creek and overlooking a beautiful picturesque landscape. In 1858 John Martin sold his farm and moved to Edgar County, this state, and located on a farm which he purchased about eight miles south of Paris, the county seat of Edgar County. There Charles went to school with three older brothers, walking about a mile to the school on Big Creek, now known as the Wall school.

In 1861, at the first call for soldiers by Lincoln to suppress the rebellion, his father enlisted to enter the Fourteenth Illinois Cavalry, but the regiment being filled, he, with a number of others, was transferred to the First Missouri Cavalry. After the battle of Pea Ridge, where he sustained a wound and also incurred sickness, he was taken to the hospital at Rolla, Mo., and there died in April, 1862. The mother, with her family of small children, remained in Edgar County until the fall of 1862, then moved back to Cass County, this state, where her parents resided.

Charles Martin went to the country schools in Cass County and also worked on a farm when he was large enough. He afterward attended school in Bloomington and Normal in this state. In 1877 he began the study of law, and also taught school for a number of terms. After coming to Cass County he reviewed his law studies with the Hon. William H. Thacker, fre-

quently mentioned in the historical part of this work, and they together took the examination before the Supreme court of Illinois and were admitted to the bar in the same class, in 1881. Mr. Martin taught school a few terms after being admitted to the bar and then opened an office in Virginia, Cass County, and entered upon the practice of his profession. He acquired a good practice and became a successful lawyer.

On September 8, 1881, Mr. Martin was married to Miss Sallie Ruth Beadles, a daughter of James M. Beadles, deceased. Mr. Beadles was one of the early pioneers of Cass County. He came here with his father, John Beadles, in 1834, from the state of Virginia, and settled on land near the present site of Virginia. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Martin, a boy and a girl. They both died in childhood, the boy at the age of six years and the girl at the age of four.

In 1892 Mr. Martin was a delegate to the National Republican convention, which met at Minneapolis, and in 1900 was elected a delegate to the National Republican convention which met at Philadelphia. The same year he was appointed by Governor John R. Tanner, one of the state commissioners to the World's Exposition, held that year in the city of Paris, France. After spending the requisite time at the exposition he traveled over a large portion of Europe, and made a special point of visiting all the noted art galleries and museums, as well as the cathedrals and churches, and the tombs of great historical characters.

Judge Martin has always been a Republican in politics, firmly believing the theories and doctrines of the Republican party, and that their practical application to the affairs of the government have been for the best interests of this nation, but he has never been obnoxious in expressing his views, and has always been kindly considerate and tolerant of the political views of others. Cass County has been for forty years Democratic in its party politics, the majorities running from 500 to 1,000, only occasionally a Republican being elected to some minor office. In 1910 Mr. Martin was nominated at the primary election on the Republican ticket for the position of county judge, and at the election in November of that year was elected to the office by a handsome majority over his Democratic opponent. That Mr. Martin made a popular judge and served the people to their satisfaction is attested by the fact that in 1914 he was renominated and reelected by a majority greater than that of any candidate on the Democratic ticket.

Judge Martin has an extended reputation as a speaker and orator and is called upon quite frequently to address the public where people are gathered for celebrations on holidays and other occasions, and has been called regularly by the managers of his political party to assist in the speaking campaigns. He is an Odd Fellow, a member of the Modern Woodmen, and several other fraternal societies. He is also a member of the Church of Christ, and is a devoted advocate of and laborer in the Sunday school. Judge and Mrs. Martin own a beautiful suburban home where they have resided for over thirty years at the eastern border of the city of Virginia, and which has been the scene of many social affairs when these hospitable people have entertained their hosts of friends.

Judge Martin is the author of the historical part of this volume, which speaks for itself as to his literary abilities and careful, studious habits of thought and research.

MASLIN, James.—No richer or more fertile land may be found in Cass County than that in the vicinity of Virginia, one and one-half miles from which city James Maslin is the owner of a well-cultivated property. His career has been one of tireless energy and well-directed management, and has been crowned by a success such as comes only to the men of ability and resources. While his life has been a singularly busy one, however, and his private interests of an extensive nature, he has found time to devote to his community's welfare, and has earned the name of a public-spirited and useful citizen. Mr. Maslin was born in the central part of Cass County, Ill., July 31, 1861, and is a son of Robert and Ellen (Dolen) Maslin.

Robert Maslin was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, and his wife in County Roscommon, and both came to the United States when young people, being married in Cass County, where they settled down to housekeeping on a farm. He continued to be a tiller of the soil until their retirement in 1895, and since that year have made their home at Virginia. They have been the parents of the following children: Mary Ann, who married Daniel Shilling, of Pasadena, Cal.; Ellen, who still resides with her parents; Jane, who died at the age of nineteen years; Matilda, who is Mrs. Henry Hull, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Canada; Emma, who is Mrs. Clinton Simmerman, of Virginia, Ill.; and James.

The eldest of his parents' children, James Maslin was reared on the homestead farm, and during the short winter terms attended the Panther Grove district school. He thus grew to sturdy manhood, alert in mind and active in body, and at the age of twenty-one years embarked in ventures on his own account, renting land in the vicinity of his home place. After two years thus spent he purchased eighty acres of land and was ready to embark upon his real life work. On February 2, 1885, he was married to Mary Ann Cary, who was born at Virginia, Ill., daughter of Michael and Catherine Cary, natives of Ireland. His eighty acres of land were located in the timber, but fifty acres had been partly cleared, and he soon had the entire tract fenced and well drained, and began the erection of a set of new buildings. A tireless and enterprising workman, he was able to make a success of his undertakings, and in 1890 rented 400 acres of improved land which he farmed in connection with his first eighty. In 1904 he moved to Virginia, but previous to this time, in 1900, he had purchased 152 acres of



Roberta G. Stribling.

land, well improved, one and one-half miles north of Virginia. In 1906 Mr. Maslin went to Jennings, La., with Alfred Campbell, and purchased 550 acres of property for the growing of rice, but later sold 120 acres and still owns 430 acres there, which he rents out for raising rice. Mr. Maslin lived in Virginia for one year, and during this time fed cattle and hogs, and in the fall of 1904 bought 197½ acres of land one and one-half miles east of Virginia, where he moved during the following March. There he remodeled the buildings and erected several new structures, and in 1907 purchased 272 acres adjoining his 152 acres one and one-half miles north of Virginia, Ill. He now works all of his own land, in addition to renting much more. In 1912, in partnership with James Newell, he purchased 274 acres just north of Virginia which he also works, carrying on general farming, raising horses, and feeding cattle and hogs. Thoroughly conversant with modern methods, he believes in the use of the most highly improved machinery. He is known as a business man of worth and substance, and as one who has succeeded honorably and honestly.

Mr. and Mrs. Maslin have been the parents of the following children: Catherine, who resides at home; Nellie, who is Mrs. P. J. Lockhart, and lives on one of her father's farms; Mary, who died at the age of eighteen years; Emma, James and Martin, living at home; and Robert, who died at the age of two years. Mr. and Mrs. Maslin are faithful members of the Catholic church. Politically a Democrat, he has served capably as school director for a period of twenty years. He is interested in several business ventures, and is vice president of the Farmers National Bank of Virginia. His fraternal connection is with the Modern Woodmen of America.

MASLIN, Robert B.—Six years of admirable service in the office of city clerk of Beardstown, Ill., have firmly established Robert B. Maslin in the confidence and esteem of the people of this thriving and ambitious community, for during his three administrations he has evidenced a commendable desire to faithfully serve the best interests of the locality and its residents. Mr. Maslin is a native son of Cass County, Ill., born December 13, 1877, his parents being William and Mary (Murphy) Maslin, natives of Ireland, who have been residents of Cass County for a period of sixty years and who still make their home at Beardstown.

Robert B. Maslin was educated in the public and parochial schools of Beardstown, and when he entered upon his business career accepted a position in the clerical department of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, with which he was connected for a period of ten years, and was then promoted to be platform foreman, and continued as such until 1909, when he was elected to the office of city clerk. Mr. Maslin's first administration was so satisfactory to the voters that in 1911 he was again sent to that office, and this approval was ratified in 1913 when he was given another re-election. He has proved faithful and conscientious in the discharge of his duties, has displayed a high order of executive ability, and is one of the most popular officials Beardstown has known.

Mr. Maslin is a member of the Elks' lodge and of the Knights of Columbus. He has been successful in a material way, and is the owner of some valuable city realty. He is unmarried and makes his home with his parents.

MASON, Charles M., a favorably known and successful young farmer and stockraiser of Cass County, Ill., whose postoffice address is Virginia, Ill., continues industriously engaged in his accustomed occupation of tilling the soil and breeding cattle on an eighty-acre farm lying in township 18, range 9. Mr. Mason was born in Adams County, Ill., June 10, 1878, a son of Charles and Hanna (Koontz) Mason, the father a native of Indiana, and the mother of Pike County, Ill. The paternal grandfather was Samuel Mason, a native of Massachusetts, and on the maternal side the grandparents were George W. and Ruth (Potter) Koontz. The father and mother of Charles M. Mason were married in Adams County, Ill., and after farming there until 1882, moved to Cass County, the father buying a farm in what was then Old Princeton, in township 17, range 9. Charles Mason died August 16, 1900, and his wife, June 26, 1901. Their children were as follows: Julie E. (Mrs. John Harwood), of Honeywell, Mo.; George, of Morgan County, Ill.; Douglas and William, both of Missouri; Ruth (Mrs. Charles Young), of Morgan County, Ill.; Leander, also of Morgan County; Thomas, of Missouri; Wallace, of Morgan County, Ill.; Warren, of Chicago; Charles M.; and Grover C.

Charles M. Mason attended the district schools in his youth and remained with his parents until their death. He then commenced working on a farm by the month and continued thus about three years. Then he farmed for himself one year on rented land in Cass County, and two years in Morgan County, returning at the end of that period to an eighty-acre farm in Cass County, township 18, range 9, left by his wife's parents. He is engaged in general farming and stockraising.

On August 10, 1905, Mr. Mason was married to Gertrude A. Robinson, a native of Cass County, daughter of George W. and Mary L. (Hensted) Robinson, natives of Ohio and Illinois, respectively. Both parents died in 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Mason have one daughter, Alma Allnene, born August 13, 1906. Socially Mr. Mason is affiliated with the M. W. A., No. 1461, of Literbury.

MASON, John M.—The construction of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad brought many excellent men to Cass County, who remained after this work was completed and developed into representative citizens of this section. Among these is John M. Mason, an engineer who resides at Beardstown. He was

born at Delaware, Newcastle County, Dela., Jnly 7, 1843, a son of John and Mary (Cordrice) Mason, natives of Delaware. The father was a stage-driver during his early life, when people traveled by stage coach, bnt later became a farmer, engaging in that line of work after a railroad was built.

John M. Mason attended a country school and afterward learned engineering. He came to Cass County to work on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and continued with it nntil 1861, when he enlisted for service during the Civil war. On July 3, 1863, he was wounded at Spottsylvania Court House, bnt continued his military service until he was mustered out, July 12, 1865, at Munsonhill, Va., when he returned to Brandywine Springs, Dela., and later returned to Cass County. In 1866 he went into the railroad roundhouse at Beardstown, worked first as a fireman and later as an engineer. In addition to his residence Mr. Mason owns four other houses, and is a man of independent means.

On November 10, 1868, Mr. Mason was married at Wilmington, Dela., to Ruth Anna Richison, born in Kent County, Dela., in 1842, a daughter of John and Ruth (Jerold) Richison, the former of whom was a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Mason became the parents of the following children: John H., Wesley R., Frank E., Mary, Henry S. and Gene. Mr. Mason is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a Methodist in religion and is active in his church. The Republican party receives his support. Faithful, capable and experienced, Mr. Mason is one of the most trusted employes of his road, and is appreciated by his associates, and when he relates stories of the earlier days regarding times through which he lived and concerning events now historic, he has many interested listeners, for his memory is remarkable.

MASTEN, Mrs. Nancy S., who is a Cass County woman who is proving her ability to conduct extensive farming interests successfully and scientifically, is justly accounted one of the representative agriculturalists of this section. Mrs. Masten was born in Cass County, April 30, 1851, a daughter of Thomas and Rachel (Elmore) Combs, the former born in Kentucky, and the latter in Robinson County, Tenn., in 1812. These parents were married in Illinois, but later went overland in a covered wagon to Missouri, but came back to Illinois and located in Cass County.

Nancy S. Combs was reared on a farm and edncated in the country schools of Cass County. On May 6, 1869, she married James Masten, born in Ohio, June 3, 1843, who came to Illinois in 1860. He was a farmer and stockraiser. His father served as a soldier during the Black Hawk war. Mr. and Mrs. Masten had the following children: Almira Jane, who was born December 19, 1870; Silas, who was born July 6, 1872; John William, who was born January 14, 1877; Nellie, who was born November 16, 1878; Edward C., who was born October 18, 1885; Rachel, who was born November 8, 1887; Ezra, born November 10, 1889, lives in Tallula; Charlie M., who was born Febrnary 24, 1892; Marion, who was born June 28, 1895, the last two being at home; and Jessie, Jnlia and Thomas, all three deceased. Mr. Masten died Jnne 2, 1901. He was a Democrat and served as a school director. Mrs. Masten is a very capable woman and has all of her land, 230 acres, situated on section 32, township 18, range 8, nnder cultivation.

MAURER, Frederick J.—The self-made man has the satisfaction of looking back over his career and realizing that what he has accomplished is due to his own efforts and not to the advantages of fortune or through the help of others. Such a man is quite often a leading figure in his township, and a helpfnl infinence to others who are trying to make their own way unaided in the world. One who belongs to this class is Frederick J. Maurer of Virginia. He was born at St. Louis, Mo., June 23, 1850, a son of John W. and Philipeno (Englehart) Maurer. The father was born in Germany, and in 1844 came to the United States by sailing vessel to the port of New Orleans, La. From there he came up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, where he found employment at his trade of bookbinding. In 1852 he bronght his family to Beardstown, Ill., where he worked at his trade and also conducted a hardware store, until he bought a farm. From then on, he gave mnch attention to farming, but continued also to bind books, until his death in 1887. The mother survived until 1890. They had eleven children, of whom Frederick J. was the sixth in order of birth.

As he began working for farmers when he was twelve years old, Frederick J. Maurer had bnt few opportunities for secnring an education. In 1880 he moved to a farm in Virginia, Cass County, of 120 acres, owned by his wife, and has since condncted it, raising stock and carrying on general farming. This property is a very valuable one, and Mr. Maurer takes pride in keeping it up to standard.

In March, 1880, Mr. Maurer married Margaret Deterding, of Morgan County, a daughter of George and Louisa Deterding. Mr. and Mrs. Maurer have had the following children: Mary, who is Mrs. J. W. Daniels, of Beardstown; Ella, who is Mrs. Major Daniels, of Cass County; George, who is at home, assists in operating the farm; Addie, who is Mrs. Gustav Peterson, of Cass County; and Ruth, who is Mrs. David Krusa, of Cass County. The family attend the Cumberland Presbyterian church. In politics, Mr. Maurer is a Democrat and has served as a school director.

McCLURE, Lloyd M., who was born in Beardstown, Ill., May 31, 1890, is a son of Milton and Rose (Orwig) McClure. The family history appears in this work. Lloyd M. McClure received his early educational training in the common and high schools of his native town

and subsequently entered the Culver (Ind.) Military Academy, where he was graduated in the scientific course with the class of 1910. Returning then to Beardstown he applied himself to the study of law with his father, afterwards pursuing a three-year course in a law school. Since completing this Mr. McClure has had charge of his late father's extensive law practice, which he has conducted with marked ability, preserving the high reputation of his lamented sire, whose death occurred April 9, 1913. His mother is still a resident of Beardstown and is highly respected by a large circle of acquaintances. Mr. McClure is a young man of notable talent and creditable culture, and gives early promise of a successful career.

Mr. McClure is connected with the Congregational church, in which his father was a shining light. Politically he gives a firm support to the policies of the Republican party.

McCLURE, Milton (deceased).—When death removes from a community one of its strong pillars of thought and action, extinguishing a life which had developed during a full generation, in acknowledged companionship with its leading minds, there is a deep sense of loss in that community. When such a life has long impressed itself as a potent individuality upon the growth of all public interests, this loss seems indeed to be irreparable. This was the general sentiment among the representative classes of Beardstown on April 9, 1913, when the career of Milton McClure, one of its most distinguished and deeply valued citizens, came to an end.

The birth of Milton McClure took place on a farm in Macoupin County, Ill., September 3, 1858. He was a son of James E. and Ellen McClure, of Carlinville, Macoupin County, in the same state. He received his early education in the public schools of Macoupin County and in Blackburn University at Carlinville. After teaching school for a while in Macoupin County, he became professor of mathematics in Blackburn College, afterwards attending the University of Iowa, where he studied law. His class numbered 130, among whom were future governors of states, United States senators, congressmen and district judges, and his only competitor for the highest honors of the class was Hon. John L. Kemus, now of Omaha, Nebr. On completing his collegiate course he located at Beardstown, in 1883, and then began that process of development which elevated him to a place among the foremost lawyers of Illinois. His practice extended far beyond local limits, and it is said that his briefs before the higher courts were among the best known models of conciseness and strength. He gave close attention to all his cases, leaving no point untouched, and the interests of every client were safe in his hands, because of his honesty and his exhaustive study. For his high qualities as a lawyer and as a citizen, that were conspicuous throughout his career of thirty years in Beardstown, he was everywhere honored and held in the utmost respect by all who knew him. During this long period he mastered the laws pertaining to the drainage district and public improvements, originating much of the legislation for the drainage districts and for the work of corporation paving.

In 1885 Mr. McClure was united in marriage with Rose Orwig, a daughter of William and Jane Orwig, of Beardstown. They had two children: Lloyd, a practicing lawyer, now twenty-five years of age; and a daughter, who died in infancy. Mr. McClure, besides his immediate family, left three brothers: Col. Charles M., of Washington, D. C.; Frank, of Louisiana; and James E., of Carlinville, also one sister, Mrs. Jesse Peebles, of Carlinville.

In religious belief Mr. McClure was a Congregationalist, and his whole life was modeled after the highest Christian standard. In financing and erecting the new Congregational church in Beardstown he took an active and important part. Politically he was a lifelong Republican, although never ambitious for public office. He was a candidate but once, when, in 1909, he was nominated by the Republicans of the Fourth Judicial District of Illinois to represent the district on the Supreme bench.

McCOLLOUGH, William Elliot (deceased).—The following is a narrative of the life experiences of one who was formerly a well known citizen of Beardstown, Cass County, Illinois, and who during his active career, bore the reputation of being one of the most prominent and useful members of the community. From 1888 until 1910 he filled successively the offices of secretary-treasurer and manager of the Beardstown Electric Light Company, which he was instrumental in organizing in the former year. During his entire active career in Beardstown he was one of the leading spirits in upbuilding and developing the principal enterprises in the city, and from time to time was interested in different public utilities. His death occurred September 4, 1910, and he passed away deeply lamented by all who understood his upright character, disinterested motives and conspicuous ability.

William E. McCollough was born in Olney, Ill., May 15, 1860, a son of William G. and Orinda (Notestine) McCollough, the father a native of Ashland County, Ohio, and the mother born in Olney. William C. McCollough came to the latter place, where he was made railroad station agent, in which position he continued until he died, May 25, 1890. His widow is also deceased.

After attending the common schools in boyhood, William E. McCollough became a railroad station telegraph operator when sixteen years old, working in Edinburg and elsewhere, and locating in Beardstown in 1884. Here he became station agent on the B. & O. Railroad, serving thus until 1888. Then, in association with a number of prominent men, he organized the Beardstown Electric Light & Power Company. Of this he was made secretary and treasurer a year later, afterwards becoming manager.

On March 8, 1894, Mr. McCollough was united in marriage with Mary E. Heffner, born in Fulton County, Ill., January 1, 1866, a daughter of Henry E. and Elizabeth (Messler) Heffner. The father of Mrs. McCollough was a native of Ashland County, Ohio, where he was born March 6, 1834, and her mother was born in Cuba, Ill., June 1, 1843. The former, who always followed farming, died in Cuba, November 13, 1880. Mrs. McCollough has a comfortable and handsome residence on Washington street, in Beardstown, where her mother has lived with her since 1905. Mrs. McCollough is a most estimable lady, and is warmly regarded by a large circle of friends. She is affiliated with the Eastern Star.

Mr. McCollough was a member of the First Congregational church of Beardstown, of which he served as trustee and served also as chairman of the executive committee for many years. At the time of his death and for many years he was a director in the First National Bank, in which Mrs. McCollough has stock, and was also a director of the Mutual Savings and Loan Association. He was a member of the Beardstown board of education and also school trustee for many years. In politics Mr. McCollough belonged to the Republican party. Fraternally he was identified with the A. F. & A. M., and was a Knight Templar and belonged to the Eastern Star and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

McDANIEL, John Elsworth, a substantial general farmer of township 17, range 11, is one of the leading agriculturalists of Cass County, and one who stands well in public esteem. He was born at Lafayette, Ind., April 10, 1867, a son of John and Jane (Hurst) McDaniel of Ross County, Ohio. The father was a farmer, who, in 1869, came to Illinois, locating in Cass County in 1880, and now lives retired, having stopped active work in 1906.

After attending the district schools of his neighborhood, John E. McDaniel entered a law office, and after study with one legal firm, practiced law at Virginia for three years. He then decided to become a farmer and rented land in Cass County, and now successfully handles several hundred acres for other parties. His experiments with alfalfa have made him an authority upon this subject, his crops averaging six tons and over to the acre.

In 1897, Mr. McDaniel was married to Miss Anna Kruse, who died three months later. She was a daughter of George and Elizabeth Kruse. In 1902, Mr. McDaniel married Miss Lanra Webster, born in Cass County, a daughter of William and Ellen Webster. Mr. and Mrs. McDaniel have had the following children: Harold, Edna, Mary, and Ruel and Russel, twins, and Dora and Emma, twins. In political affiliation Mr. McDaniel is a Republican. Fraternally he belongs to the Foresters at Virginia. A man of energy and ability, Mr. McDaniel is forging to the front, and undoubtedly is destined to become a man of large means and considerable influence in his community.

McDONALD, Henry.—With the exception of two years, the entire career of Henry McDonald, cashier of the Centennial National Bank of Virginia, has been passed in this city, where he has been not only identified with banking but also with journalistic enterprises, as well as with the city government. He was born at Virginia, December 18, 1869, and is a son of William J. and Mary (Mahoney) McDonald, natives of Ireland, the former of the city of Belfast and the latter of County Cork. They came to the United States as young married people. The father conducted a tin shop and stove store at Virginia for many years and here died in 1875, when his son Henry was six years old.

The education of Henry McDonald was secured in the public schools of Virginia, after leaving which he became a printer's "devil" in the office of the Virginia Gazette. He spent a number of years with this publication, of which he eventually became manager and then publisher, and continued as such until taking the position of cashier of the Centennial National Bank, which he now occupies. He has been identified with a number of prosperous business enterprises, being at this time secretary of the Virginia Building and Savings Association and the proprietor of a flourishing insurance agency, and in addition to his residence owns other valuable Virginia property. He bears an excellent reputation in business circles, always having exercised the strictest integrity in his dealings, and the success which has come to him has been fairly and honorably earned. At various times in his career Mr. McDonald has been called upon to act in positions in the public service, and has served one term as city treasurer of Virginia, several terms as city clerk, and a number of years as a member of the school board, of which he has also been clerk. He has always been a Democrat in his political views.

Mr. McDonald was married to Miss Nettie White, who was born in Cass County, a daughter of Joseph L. White. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. McDonald: Pearl, the wife of Walter H. Widmayer, who has two sons, Herman and Jack; and Freda and Edwin, both of whom reside with their parents.

McDOWELL, George J.—It has been the privilege of George J. McDowell to realize many worthy ambitions during a long and useful career in Cass County, and, through consecutive and well-directed effort, to gain a full measure of success from his labors. His entire business life has been passed within the borders of Cass County, where he was born, May 27, 1846, a son of James and Sarah (Gillis) McDowell. James McDowell was born in Pennsylvania, and in his youth was a deep sea sailor and a mechanic. Later he was in the distilling business, and followed teaming for some years at Beardstown, Ill. He married Sarah Gillis, a native of Ohio, in Cass County. Mr. McDowell died in the prime of life, in 1848, his widow subsequently marrying Thomas Cown. Mr. Cown died in 1865, and his widow passed away in 1874.



Frank J. Tract

Reared in the country, George J. McDowell early adopted farming as his life work, and was engaged in the tilling of the soil until the Rebellion of 1861 threatened the stability of the country. With youthful patriotism he wished to immediately enlist but was too young, but enlisted, when not yet eighteen years of age, in April, 1864, in Company G, One hundred and Forty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for 100 days, and received his honorable discharge in October, 1864, after seeing service in Missouri and Arkansas. In March, 1865, he again enlisted, becoming a member of Company G, Eighteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and until December, 1865, was a member of that organization, fighting in Tennessee and Arkansas. After his honorable military career, he resumed the occupations of peace, being engaged in farming near Beardstown, and subsequently bought land northeast of Bluff Springs.

On December 18, 1873, Mr. McDowell was married to Miss Sarah Thompson, who was born in Morgan County, Ill., daughter of Robert and Jane (Atchinson) Thompson, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. McDowell have had the following children: Edwin, Charles, Albert, Elmer, Howard and Roy, all living at home; and Jennie, born April 1, 1892, who died July 17, 1908.

In 1880 Mr. McDowell disposed of his farm and moved to Beardstown, where he was engaged in teaming for three years, and at the end of that period came to the vicinity of Virginia, where he devoted his activities to farming and stockraising. In 1906 he retired somewhat from the strenuous work of the farm, and since that time has been engaged in gardening. His ventures have proved eminently successful, and his honest accumulations have made him one of the substantial men of his community. Mr. McDowell met with a serious accident, in September, 1911, when he was thrown from a load of hay, the accident causing the dislocation of his neck and nearly resulting in his death, but happily he recovered. He is a popular member of Downing Post No. 321, Grand Army of the Republic, is a Republican in politics, and attends the Christian church, of which his wife is a faithful member.

McGEE, John A., M. D.—Prominent among the physicians of Cass County whose achievements in their calling have won them high professional honors, material prosperity and the esteem and respect of the people among whom they have labored, is found Dr. John A. McGee, of Virginia. He was born April 26, 1873, in Edgar County, Ill., a son of John Wesley and Nancy (Byram) McGee. Doctor McGee is of Scotch-Irish descent, his grandfather, William McGee, coming to the United States about the year 1828 after his marriage to Susan Dawson, and they settled at Roanoke, Va., from whence they removed to western Ohio, where the grandfather met an accidental death. John Wesley McGee, father of Doctor McGee, was born on the ocean while his parents were coming to this country, and grew to manhood at Sandusky, Ohio, coming to Illinois in 1850. Here he followed farming during the balance of his long and honorable career, and died in 1897. He was married three times, and had eight children, namely: Felix P. and Ann M., by his first union; William W. and Martha E., by his second marriage, and John A., Florence, deceased, Arthur H. and Odis W., by his last union, with Nancy Byram.

John A. McGee's early education was secured in the public schools of Edgar County, following which he took courses in Vermilion Grove Academy and Earlham College, Richmond, Ind. His medical degree was secured from Hahnemann Medical School, of Chicago, where he was graduated in 1896, and following this he entered upon the practice of his profession at Virginia, where he has since been located in the enjoyment of an excellent professional business. He has never ceased to be a student and has taken post-graduate courses at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago. He is a member of the Homeopathic Medical Association, the Cass County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, and from the inception of the county organization until his recent resignation has been secretary of the county organization. Doctor McGee is a member of the board of pension examiners of this district, has been president of the board of health for several years, and for two years has been president of the board of education. His practice is of a general nature, but he has also done a great deal of specializing in surgical work, especially in the Springfield hospitals, and has acquired something more than a local reputation. For three years he has been a valued member of the State Historical Society. He is widely known in fraternal circles, being a past master of the Masonic order and a member of the Blue Lodge and Chapter, and also holds membership in the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. For some years he has been medical examiner for the Woodmen and various other fraternal and insurance orders.

Doctor McGee was married in Edgar County to Miss Alice E. Constans, daughter of Frederick and Mary (Cook) Constans, and a native of Paris, Ill. Four children have been born to this union, namely: A. Donovan, now in the United States Postal Service, connected with the United States Army, in Texas; and Florence, Lelia and Lillian, all residing at home and attending school.

McKINZIE, Edwin E., one of the most successful and reliable builders and contractors of Beardstown, Cass County, has executed contracts upon some of the finest buildings within its borders, making Beardstown his headquarters. He was born in Susquehanna County, Pa., May 25, 1858, a son of George and Mary S. (Berthelf) McKinzie, he born in New York and she in New Jersey. The father was a carpenter and after his marriage moved to Penn-

sylvania and worked at his trade for a time in that state, but in 1865 he came to Schuyler County, Ill., where, at Rushville, he found plenty of employment. Later, he went on a farm in the same county, and after farming for a number of years, moved to Beardstown and took up the building business again, and followed the same until well advanced in years. He died in Brookfield, Mo., at the home of his son, W. C. McKinzie. The mother died at the same place in 1913. Their children were as follows: William C., who is of Quincy, Ill.; Edwin E.; James Delos, who died at the age of nine years; Carrie, who died in infancy; Nellie, who is Mrs. J. B. Roach, of Beardstown, Ill.; and Eva, who is of Brookfield, Mo.

Edwin E. McKinzie attended the Rushville public schools and was taught the carpenter trade by his father. Until 1881, he resided with his parents, but in that year began farming for himself, followed this occupation for a few years, later moved to Beardstown, and worked as a carpenter until he branched out as a contractor and builder. Some of his contracts have been: The E. H. Kinney, the Smith and the Jones residences, and many others at Beardstown and throughout Cass County as well as in Schuyler County, and he gives employment to from four to fifteen men according to the season.

In October, 1881, Mr. McKinzie was married to Mary Agnes Wilmot, born in Schuyler County, Ill., and died in August, 1905. She was a daughter of Mott and Dorcas (Harding) Wilmot. Mr. and Mrs. McKinzie became the parents of the following children: Carrie Alice, who is Mrs. P. M. Green, of Beardstown, Ill.; Warren George, who is of Beardstown; Ethel D., who is at home; Oak Oral, who is of Beaumont, Tex.; and Maud V., who is Mrs. L. R. Blohm, of Clinton, Ill. In January, 1907, Mr. McKinzie was married to Cora Bell Sexton, who was born in Schuyler County.

Mr. McKinzie is very prominent in the Methodist church, in which he has served as steward since 1900 and during the same period he has been a chorister, singing, it has been said, at more funerals than any other man at Beardstown. For a number of years he has been a teacher in the Sunday school, and was treasurer of it for twelve years, and assistant to the secretary. Being a man of advanced views with regard to temperance, he has cast his vote for the candidates of the Prohibition ticket for many years, but never has held office. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Knights of Pythias, both of Beardstown.

MERTZ, William K.—Upon the stable bankers of any community largely rests the sound prosperity that attends the people, for as they, as financial guardians, conduct their institutions, so does the credit of their section appear to the outside world. Cass County is very fortunate in its financial magnates, for they are notably men of the highest probity, conservative in their methods, and wise in their management of the affairs placed in their experienced hands. One of these men deserving of more than special mention is William K. Mertz, cashier of the State Bank of Chandlerville. He was born at Beardstown, Ill., December 18, 1853, a son of John Henry and Louisa Elizabeth (Hardt) Mertz.

William K. Mertz was educated in the common schools of Beardstown, and entered upon his business career as a clerk in a private bank owned by Barr Chandler & Co., of Chandlerville, in April, 1872. He remained with this concern and its successors until 1881, and then became a member of the banking firm of Petefish, Skiles & Mertz. In 1892, Mr. Mertz became its manager and the firm became Conover, Skiles & Mertz, thus continuing until 1903, when it was chartered as the State Bank of Chandlerville, with Mr. Mertz as cashier, which position he still retains. The State Bank of Chandlerville is in an excellent condition, its capital stock being $50,000, with a surplus and accrued earnings of $60,000, and deposits of $250,000. Mr. Mertz is a member of the board of trustees of Chandlerville, and has served as such for a number of years. The Elks and Knights of Pythias hold his membership. For some years he has belonged to the Congregational church of Chandlerville, in which his influence and support are useful factors.

On June 24, 1880, Mr. Mertz was married at Beardstown, Ill., to Catherine A. Norton, and they have one son, William N., who was born April 27, 1881. No man stands higher in public esteem than Mr. Mertz, and his success in life is well merited for he has won it through close attention to business, honorable dealing and public-spirited actions.

MEYER, Albert H., general farmer, merchant and manufacturer at Beardstown, is a man of more than usual business acumen, and has long been an important factor here. No man stands higher in public esteem. He was born at Beardstown, Ill., March 30, 1870, a son of Henry C. and Amelia (Boy) Meyer, the former born in Germany, and the latter in Cass County. Henry C. Meyer, the father, was a farmer and manufacturer of brick. He was brought when a small child to America by his parents, who located first in Indiana, but later came to Beardstown. When Henry C. Meyer attained his majority he began farming and making brick and tile and developed his business until he took and executed contracts for the building of large ice houses. These he stored with ice taken from a body of water now bearing the name of Meyer Lake, at Beardstown. In all he was a prosperous business man.

Albert H. Meyer was educated in the schools of Beardstown, and assisted his father in his business ventures, and later engaged in the manufacturing of brick and tile on his own account. He also has put up ice and sold it at wholesale and has developed a business of importance. He owns 160 acres of land in town-

ship 18, Cass County, and his residence is at No. 303 Wall street, Beardstown.

On November 29, 1894, Mr. Meyer was married to Minnie C. Buck, who was born at Beardstown, June 10, 1876, a daughter of Frederick and Anna M. (Boess) Buck, natives of Cass County and Germany, respectively. The latter was brought to the United States by her parents when still a small child. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer became the parents of the following children: Wilber H., who was born April 12, 1897; Martha E., born October 28, 1902; Aldyna A., born May 31, 1905; and Henry C., born August 27, 1912. Mr. Meyer belongs to the Lutheran church. Fraternally he is connected with the Maccabees and Court of Honor, and Mrs. Meyer is a member of the L. O. T. M. Mr. Meyer is a Democrat and is serving his party as precinct committeeman. An excellent business man, Mr. Meyer is working along progressive lines and has the good of his town at heart.

MEYER, Frank W., whose success in a mercantile line has been so remarkable as to entitle him to a foremost position among the representative men of Cass County, is a wholesale and retail dealer in general merchandise at Nos. 601 to 611 E. Fourth street, Beardstown. He was born at Muscatine, Iowa, April 9, 1865, a son of John Meyer. He lost his parents in childhood and was reared in Adams and Morgan counties, Ill., and early displayed those qualities which later aided him in developing his present large business connections. In 1883 he went to Kansas where for seven years he was profitably engaged in various callings, but in 1890 he returned to Illinois and established his present business at Beardstown. From the start he has been eminently successful and his name is synonymous with upright dealing and reliable goods. Mr. Meyer has had faith in Beardstown and has invested in realty and in addition to his business he owns the two-story building in which it is located, a half block of other business property on East Fourth street, and his private residence. In politics he is a Republican. The Methodist church holds his membership.

While living in Kansas Mr. Meyer was married, on March 23, 1888, to Ida Boellner, born in Cass County, Ill., April 10, 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer became the parents of the following children: Walter P., Grace A., Lorena M., Frank W., Jr., Glenn Logan and Logan Glenn, twins, and Eva May, all of whom were born in Cass County, except the eldest. Perhaps Cass County has no busier man than Mr. Meyer for the increasing demands of his flourishing business entirely absorb his time and attention, and that he puts both to excellent use, his prosperity testifies.

MEYER, Louis C.—With business as the keynote of his life, Louis C. Meyer has forged ahead and is now one of the successful and highly esteemed men of Cass County, with residence at Beardstown. He was born in this city December 4, 1863, a son of Henry C. and Amelia (Boy) Meyer, natives of Germany and Cass County, respectively. The father was a farmer and a manufacturer of brick and tile, and also owned ice storage houses. He came to Cass County at an early day. In addition to establishing his brick yard and ice business, he conducted a sawmill and cultivated considerable land, becoming one of the wealthy men of his day.

Louis C. Meyer attended the schools of Beardstown, and took a course at Bryant & Stratton's Business College, St. Louis, Mo., during 1884-5. He worked for his father until he was twenty-four years old, at which time he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and is now one of their capable and trusted engineers. Mr. Meyer is well situated financially, owning his residence at Beardstown, 300 acres of land in Cass County, 160 acres near Crookston, Minn., and other farming land. In politics, he is a Democrat.

Mr. Meyer was first married to Tillie Piehler, born in West Virginia, the ceremony taking place in 1888. In 1907, he was married (second) to Clara Lenhart, who was born at York, Pa. Mr. Meyer's children were born to his first marriage. They are: Louis, who is of Portland, Ore.; and Clarence, Hershel, Catherine and Irene, all of whom are at home. A man of industrious habits and excellent judgment, Mr. Meyer has become successful and at the same time has found time to make many friends and retains them.

MILSTEAD, James W., who, in his work of general farming and raising of hogs, is giving practical demonstration of how efficient and prosperous an agriculturalist of Cass County can be, was born in this county, March 18, 1858, a son of William E. and Ellen (Struble) Milstead, natives of Kentucky, and Morgan County, Ill., respectively. The grandparents were Edward and Mary N. (Hinchee) Milstead, natives of Virginia; and Andrew and Sarah (Stout) Struble, natives of Ohio and New Jersey. The paternal grandfather, a shoemaker by trade, died in 1871, and the grandmother died in 1870.

William E. Milstead came to Morgan County, Ill., in 1849, and soon thereafter located in Cass County. In 1858 he became a resident of Oregon Precinct, and there lived until his death, September 6, 1872. His widow, who was born February 23, 1838, now lives at Petersburg, Ill. They had the following children: Sarah L., who is Mrs. D. M. Wyatt, widow, of Ashland, Ill.; James W.; Philemon, who is of Lucas County, Kas.; Jacob D., who is of Colorado; Alfred S., who is deceased; George E., who lives in township 18, range 9, Richmond Precinct; Laura, who died young; Florence, who lives with her mother; Ella, who died an infant; and Martha, who also lives with her mother.

James W. Milstead attended the Mount Pleasant Ridge district school and resided with his parents until his marriage, when he rented land in Richmond Precinct for two years. In 1890 he bought 185 acres in that same precinct, to

which he has added eighty acres. At the time he became its owner, the land was but partly improved, but he has made many improvements and purchased farm appliances, and now carries on general farming and raises cattle and hogs, being very successful in his work.

On November 15, 1888, Mr. Milstead married Elizabeth Wing, born in Cass County, May 6, 1862, near Chandlerville, a daughter of Egbert and Eliza (Davis) Wing, and their children are: Arthur, who is of Chandlerville; Roscoe, who is of Richmond Precinct; and Leo, Charles, Effie and James, who are at home. In politics he is a Democrat, while fraternally he belongs to the Chandlerville Lodge, I. O. O. F., and the Newmanville Lodge, M. W. A.

MOHRMAN, Casper.—The following lines constitute a narrative of the experience of one who was for many years a well known citizen of Beardstown, where he had many friends, and one who, in the dark days of the country's sorest need, although born on a foreign soil, gave his best service in the war for the preservation of the Union. While a member of this community, Casper Mohrman was among its busiest men, and all his duties both public and private were fulfilled with a fidelity and constancy that caused him to be highly esteemed as a husband, neighbor and friend, and made his death deeply deplored by all who knew him.

Casper Mohrman was a native of Prussia, Germany, where his birth took place March 16, 1846. His mother died in the old country, and Casper came to the United States with his father, William Mohrman, about the year 1850, and proceeding to Illinois, located in Beardstown, where the elder Mohrman followed different occupations. Casper attended the public school whenever possible in his boyhood days, and when quite young, learned the butcher's trade, which he followed until the time of his enlistment in the Union army. This occurred at Peoria, Ill., May 24, 1863, and he became a member of Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was honorably discharged October 28, 1864.

In the spring of 1874, Mr. Mohrman was married to Louisa Beck, who was born in Beardstown. Their children were as follows: William, of St. Louis; Simon, of Brown County, Ill.; Grover C. and Nora, twins, the latter being Mrs. George Micherbach, of St. Louis; Rosa, of Beardstown; and Emil, of Highland, Ill. The mother of this family died in 1889.

After his military service was over, Mr. Mohrman was somewhat unsettled until his second marriage. This event took place in June, 1901, when he was wedded to Sarah Moorman, a native of Beardstown, and a daughter of Casper H. and Catherine M. (Schroeder) Moorman, who were of German nativity, and came to Beardstown in 1845. In Germany, Casper Moorman was a miller by trade, and after emigrating to the United States he became a bricklayer and plasterer. The children born to the second marriage were as follows: Catherine, widow of Rev. Mr. Vetter; Magdalena M. and Sophia E., both deceased, (the latter having been the wife of F. A. Mack); Sarah; and Gustaf, who died in infancy.

After working a number of years for Anton Rink in the brewing business, Mr. Mohrman opened a liquor store, which he conducted until 1906, when he gave it up, and in the fall of that year, met with a serious injury, breaking his collar bone. He had a second accident. At Joplin, Mo., while walking over a bridge to attend the funeral of his brother-in-law, he fell, and was so badly hurt that he died the same night, August 26, 1909. His remains were brought to Beardstown, where they were buried in the home cemetery. Mrs. Mohrman is living in comfortable circumstances at her home in Beardstown, and has a wide circle of friends. Her husband was a man of very kindly disposition, and all who knew him cherish his memory. Politically, he acted with the Democratic party.

MULLEN, John.—Those who know John Mullen, and recognize in him one of the substantial agriculturists of the vicinity of Virginia, Ill., find it hard to believe that when he came to this section of Cass County, sixty-four years ago, he was a poor Irish emigrant lad, with naught save his ambition and determination to succeed to aid him in his struggles with the world. That he has risen to his present position of prosperity is due to his tireless perseverance, his thrift and good management, and his strict adherence to honorable principles. Mr. Mullen was born May 16, 1835, in County Antrim, Ireland, and is a son of Thomas and Isabell (Harron) Mullen.

John Mullen received his education in the public schools of his native land, and was there reared on his father's small farm. Believing, however, that his native land held out little opportunity for gaining independence and position, Mr. Mullen decided to try his fortunes in the United States, and accordingly, as a lad of sixteen years, he embarked upon a sailing vessel and came to this country by way of New Orleans. He was on the ocean and Mississippi River for nine weeks and three days, and because the latter was frozen he was compelled to lay up at St. Louis, Mo., waiting for a break-up of the ice. After three weeks, however, his money gave out, and with several families he started to walk to Virginia, Ill., a journey that was accomplished in a week's time. After three weeks of sickness, caused by an attack of typhoid fever, he secured employment with a Mr. Elliott, and after one summer with this gentleman began work for Doctor Chandler, at Chandlerville. He spent six years on a farm, and then, buying a team and renting a tract of land, engaged in operations on his own account. Mr. Mullen rented land for six years, and then purchased 160 acres of his present farm, at that time all in the timber. Upon this he first built a primitive log cabin, in which he resided while starting to clear the place from the brush. In the following spring he was able

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to put under croppage a few acres, and from that time on his success was steady and grew rapidly. Subsequently he rented some cleared land from James Armstrong, and each year cleared a little more of his own land, constantly adding thereto until he is now the owuer of 280 acres, all in one body except forty-five acres, and of this 165 acres are under the plow, the remainder being devoted to timber and pasture land. He has always carried on general farming and stockraising, and has beeu successful in his ventures because he has always labored hard and faithfully and has made a study of his vocation and the best methods of pursuing it.

Mr. Mullen was married in August, 1860, to Miss Sidney Armstrong, born in County Derry, Ireland, daughter of John and Nancy (Cook) Armstrong, and to this union there have been born the following children: John, a resideut of Christian County, Ill.; Tillie, who is deceased; Robert, of Christiau County; Charles, of Cass County, Ill.; Samuel, of Chandlerville; James, of Cass County, Ill.; Joseph, of Brown County; Annie, wife of Louis Salzman, who conducts Mr. Mullen's farm; William, of Chandlerville; and Lula, who married Luther Schoonover, of Brown County; and two who died iu iufaucy. The mother of these childreu died April 19, 1899, and was buried in Chaudlerville cemetery.

Mr. Mullen is a Republicau in politics, and has always resided aud voted in Chandlerville Precinct. He has taken an active interest in public affairs, and has been honored by election to office, serving in the capacities of supervisor and school director. His fraternal connection is with the Masonic Blue Lodge, at Chandlerville. In a railroad accideut at Flora, on his return from a visit at Ricelaud, La., in 1903, Mr. Mullen sustained an injury to his left haud which necessitated its amputation.

NEEDHAM, Elijah, postmaster at Virginia, Ill., is a man who has lived up to what he believes to be his full duty and faithfully discharged the trust reposed in him when he received his present appointment from the government. Mr. Needham is a native of Cass County, having been born four miles northeast of Virginia, October 31, 1855, a son of James and Cecelia (Wilkie) Needham, the former a native of England, while the latter was born in Scotlaud. Both had been married prior to their union. They had three children, namely: Cecelia, who is Mrs. John Miles of Cass County; Nancy, who is a teacher in the Missouri Wesleyan College; and Elijah. The list of the children by their former marriages, is not complete. Both James Needham and wife died in Cass County in 1893.

Elijah Needham attended the common schools of his district, the Virginia High school and the Illinois State Normal school, being graduated from the latter institution in the class of 1888. Following this, he began teaching in Cass County, and for four and one-half years was principal of the Ashland High school. In 1896 he came to Virginia and embarked in a book and stationery business, continuing it until 1902, when he was appointed postmaster of the Virginia office. He is a member of the Masonic order, the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen, and is secretary of the first uamed, having held that office for about nine years. For the past fourteen years he has been president of the Virginia school board. The Methodist church holds his membership.

In 1891, Mr. Needham married Catherine Behler, a daughter of John and Sophia (Fuuk) Behler. There are uo living children of this marriage.

NEWMAN, Alexander, who is not only a native son of Cass County, but is also one of its progressive men and successful agriculturalists, owus one of the best developed farms in his precinct. He was born May 29, 1857, a son of Robert and Mary (Mangus) Newmau. Robert Newmau was born iu what later became West Virginia, in 1834, while his wife was born in Frankliu County, Va., in 1831. They were married in Carroll County, Va., March 11, 1853. They came to Illinois in the same year, laudiug at Beardstowu on October 16, from whence they went into the country and located at Oregon Poiut. There Robert Newman begau working by the uonth, and so coutinued for nine years, at the same tiiue carefully saving his mouey and at the expiration of that period entered eighty acres of land, and at that time he only had to pay tweuty-five cents per acre for it. It was all wild brush land, and required much hard work to bring it into a proper state of cultivation. From time to time he has added to his acreage until there are now 146 acres of land in his homestead. He has been thrice married and survives all his wives.

Alexander Newman lived with his father and a step-mother until he was twenty years old, during that time securing a public school education. He then located on a farm of 160 acres which his father had bought for $2,250, aud rented it for twenty-three years, but in 1900, he bought the place, on which he carries on general farming and stockraising, being one of the uost successful uen in his line at this time, in the town. When he took charge of the property, only thirty-five acres were cleared, the remainder being in wild brush, but now all but thirty acres have been cleared, this being in timber.

On October 29, 1878, Mr. Newman married Ellen A. Cunningham, born near Virginia, Ill., a daughter of Thomas and Euphemia (Wilkie) Cunningham. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Newman are as follows: Mary E., who resides at Virginia; Florence, who is Mrs. Charles Russell of Cass County; Grace, who is Mrs. Silas White of Pleasant Plains, Ill.; Edith, who is Mrs. William Drake of Cass County; Harry, who resides in Cass County, married May Haxton; and Arthur, Jennie, Roy aud Charles, all of whom reside at home. Mr. Newman is a Republican, but is not an officer seeker,

confining his energy to the management of his private affairs.

NICHOLSON, Edgar Ellis, who was appointed postmaster of Beardstown, Ill., on May 1, 1911, and one of the best known men of Cass County, was born June 8, 1879, a son of John S. and Eliza Jane (Buck) Nicholson, natives of England and of Cass County, Ill. The mother died in September, 1900. The father was born in 1832 and died in 1911. In 1841 he came with his parents to Meredosia, Ill., via New Orleans, and lived on a Morgan County farm for ten years. Later the family came to Beardstown, where the father worked in a newspaper office until 1861, when he became the manager of the plant and so continued until 1866, at which time he secured control of the Central Illinoian, and under this title he conducted the paper until 1898, when it was consolidated with the Star and then was issued a weekly and daily edition. His partner was Cad Allard, and the name was changed to the Illinoian-Star, and the paper made a daily, and prior to 1904 John S. Nicholson had bought his partner's interest. In 1904 he was appointed postmaster and served for seven years, dying in office. He had long been an active worker in the Republican party.

Until 1900 Edgar E. Nicholson lived at home, but in that year he went to St. Louis, Mo., where he was engaged in a printing business with his brother, C. B. Nicholson for two years, then returned to Beardstown and joined his father in the newspaper business, becoming city editor of the Illinoian-Star, and he and his father continued associated until the latter's death in 1911. In 1904 F. M. Fulks bought an interest in the paper, and in 1906 Edgar E. Nicholson became sole proprietor. On January 1, 1914, Mr. Nicholson sold the business to the Schaeffer Publishing Company. He has been prominent in Republican ranks, and for eight years has been secretary of the Cass County Central Committee. Since 1911 he has been a member of the Beardstown board of education, and in 1913 he was made a member of the Library board, which he serves as treasurer. Fraternally he is identified with the Elks and the Masons at Beardstown.

In September, 1904, Mr. Nicholson was married to Anna V. Smith, a daughter of H. A. and Margaret (Brightbill) Smith, natives of Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson have had three children: Jane, who was born in November, 1905; Virginia, born May, 1908, and died December, 1909, and Marion, who was born in August, 1910. Mr. Nicholson and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.

NISBET, George Whitfield, is one of the successful general farmers and stock breeders of Cass County. As a man he is proving in his every day life that industry and integrity pay and that the farmers of this region have fine opportunities to advance themselves if they follow in the same paths. Mr. Nisbet was born in Virginia Precinct September 19, 1875, a son of William and Elizabeth (Massey) Nisbet, the former a native of Preble County, O., and the latter of Brown County, Ill.

Growing up on the home farm property, Mr. Nisbet attended the schools of his district, and the Virginia High school, and assisted his father until his marriage, which took place on April 12, 1905, when he was united by Rev. Brown, of Jacksonville, to Celia Woodward, born at Winchester, Ill., February 14, 1878, a daughter of E. D. Clinton and Mary (Petefish) Woodward, natives of Cass County, Ill. One daughter, Mary Elizabeth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Nisbet, on June 2, 1906.

After his marriage Mr. Nisbet went on his brother's farm east of Virginia, and there spent three years, during which period he built a modern farm house upon an eighty acre farm he owned in Virginia Precinct. When this was completed, he moved into it, in 1908, and operates this farm with forty acres more located three miles northwest of his homestead, which he also owns. On these properties he carries on general farming and raises Poland-China hogs, shorthorn and Hereford cattle and draught and road horses. Additionally he raises stock on 400 acres near Virginia, a farm that is owned by Mrs. Nisbet, who also owns 160 acres south of Virginia, together with several properties in Virginia.

In his religious views, Mr. Nisbet is a Presbyterian. Politically he is a Democrat, and has served as a school director for three years. A man of purpose, he has steadily forged ahead, and is recognized as an excellent representative of the progressive agriculturists of Cass County.

NISBET, Newell T.—The Nisbet family, or rather the two brothers and one sister whose residence is on the old Nisbet homestead in township 17, Cass County, Ill., can boast of one of the finest farming properties to be found in this part of the state. Throughout its entire extent of three quarters of a section of very productive land, are noticeable the evidences of perfect order of arrangement, careful management, thorough cultivation and domestic comfort. In fertility and productiveness, as well as in all its equipment of machinery for operation, and for the breeding and care of stock, Cass County presents to view no more complete and attractive place. As far back as 1839 it was composed of several different farms conducted by their respective owners, but the interests have been merged in the course of time into one compact farm.

Here was born Newell T. Nisbet, a son of William and Elizabeth A. (Massey) Nisbet, the father born in Preble County, Ohio, and the mother a native of Illinois, whose birth took place at Mount Sterling. They were married in Cass County and settled on a part of the above mentioned land. William Nisbet, who had always followed farming and stockraising, died on this place in March, 1892, at the age of eighty-four years, and his widow passed

away in January, 1903, when sixty-seven years old. Their children were as follows: Chalmers, who died in 1888; Walter, who died in 1882; John, of township 17, Cass County; James S., who died in infancy; Newell and Bethune, on the home-place; George, of Cass County; and Mary, who keeps house for Newell and Bethune. These three have always lived on the home place, and on it the brothers do general farming, also raise hogs extensively, and raise and feed cattle and horses.

In his youth, Newell Nisbet attended the district schools of the neighborhood, and later was a pupil in Brown's Business College, Jacksonville. Bethune received his early education in the common schools, the Virginia Academy, Brown's Business College and the Illinois College. They have a comfortable brick residence built by their father, and they erected in 1903, a spacious frame house of twelve rooms, with all modern improvements, in which they live. The religious connection of Mr. Nisbet is with the Providence Presbyterian church. In politics he is a Democrat, and has served efficiently as road clerk, and in other capacities.

NOLLSCH, Alfred Julius.—Perhaps there are few counties where modern methods of farming prevail more extensively than in Cass County, for the agriculturalists of this region appreciate the effect such a course produces. One of these progressive farmers is Alfred Julius Nollsch, born in Cass County, on the homestead, a portion of which he now occupies, December 28, 1876, a son of Gottlieb and Catherine (Hobig) Nollsch, natives of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany. The maternal grandfather, John Hobig, came to Cass County, but died in Sangamon County. When only nineteen years old, Gottlieb Nollsch came to Cass County, and here married, settling then on a farm to which he added until he owned 607 acres. On his homestead he built a fine brick house, and became one of the heavy general farmers and stock men of the county. His death occurred May 30, 1897. His widow lived on the farm until 1902, when she moved to Virginia and there died, December 8, 1912. Both had been previously married, and by the father's first marriage there were the following children: Lawrence, of Sangamon County; William, of Missouri; and Benjamin, of Peoria, Ill. By the mother's first marriage to a Mr. Mauler, there were the following children: Elizabeth, who is Mrs. H. P. Lampert, of Cleveland, Ohio; and Carrie, who is Mrs. J. O. Robinson, of Springfield, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Nollsch had the following children: Anna M., who is Mrs. William Emerich, of Virginia; Margaret, who is also of Virginia; Walter A., who is of Springfield, Ill.; Thomas C., who is on a portion of the home place; George H., who is of Sangamon County; Alfred J.; and Phillip G., who is of Denver, Colo.

Alfred J. Nollsch attended the public schools of his district and grew up on the homestead. His portion of the farm amounted to 120 acres, and he built the house and other structures now on it and has a very fine property, on which he carries on general farming and stockraising. On April 10, 1901, he married Mae L. Marcy, of Chandlerville, Ill., a daughter of Lemuel H. and Lucretia (Smith) Marcy, natives of Cass County. The paternal grandfather was Charles Marcy. Mr. and Mrs. Nollsch became the parents of children as follows: Alberta Marcy, Julius Gottlieb, Catherine Lucretia and Elizabeth Marie. Mr. Nollsch is a Methodist, and has been a steward and also a trustee of that church, and superintendent of the Sunday school since 1900. He is progressive in his political views. For a number of years he has been a school director. The Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, of Chandlerville, hold his membership. A man of advanced ideas, he is a worthy example of Cass County's best farmers, and his past indicates that his plans for the future will include additional substantial improvements.

NOLLSCH, Thomas Charles, a farmer of modern ideas and successful endeavor, belongs to the old Nollsch family of Cass County, which is so well and favorably known and spoken of at length elsewhere in this work. Thomas C. Nollsch was born on the family homestead, October 18, 1870, a son of Gottlieb and Catherine (Hobig) Nollsch. His boyhood was spent on the farm, he alternating assisting his parents with attendance at the district school, and did not farm alone until 1902. In that year he began renting a portion of the homestead, thus continuing for five years, when he became a tenant on land in Oregon Precinct, but within a year, he moved to Sylvan Precinct. There he rented a house and worked for various farmers until the following fall, when he bought seventy-five acres of the homestead. On this he now resides and carries on general farming and also raises horses, cattle and hogs.

On May 22, 1902, Mr. Nollsch was married by Rev. M. M. Want, of Jacksonville, to Cora May Wyatt, born in Oregon Precinct, August 5th, 1873, a daughter of Fenton and Alice (Carver) Wyatt, of Cass County. Mr. Wyatt is deceased, but his widow lives at Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Nollsch have had two children: Greta Alice, born June 17, 1904, and Ralph Emerson, born January 21, 1906. A Methodist, Mr. Nollsch is connected with the church of that denomination at Chandlerville. Politically he is a Progressive. The Knights of Pythias of Chandlerville hold his membership, and he is popular in that order, as he is elsewhere. He donated the ground and assisted in getting up the petition to locate the Oak Dale schoolhouse, built in 1911.

OWENS, Thomas A., whose success as a farmer and stockraiser may be directly laid to his natural leaning toward that line of business, and the effort he makes to carry on his work intelligently and according to modern methods, was born in Jo Daviess County, Ill., January 17, 1861, a son of Johnston and Margaret (Irvine) Owens, born in County Donegal, Ireland. In 1852 they came to the United States, locating in Greene

County, Ill., from whence they went to Jo Daviess County, Ill. In 1853, the father went to California in quest of gold and spent two years there, then returned to Illinois, and after a short time spent at Carrolton, he and his wife went back to Ireland. There they spent six years, and then once more came to this country, and for a year made their home at Galena, Ill., and following this they lived on a farm, until 1879. Then the father bought forty acres of land in Cass County, in township 18, range 9, Oregon Precinct, where the father died August 17, 1899. The mother survived him, dying July 6, 1908.

Thomas A. Owens was the only child of his parents, and he remained at home and attended the schools of his district in boyhood. In January, 1889, he went to Chandlerville, where he opened a grocery store, but sold it within six months and returned to the homestead, and has been engaged in farming and stockraising ever since. On August 25, 1888, he married Hannah Gould, who was born at Table Grove, Iowa, and died October 20, 1889. She was a daughter of Samuel A. and Mary (Inches) Gould, natives of Ohio and Scotland, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Owens had one daughter, Margaret Mary, who was born October 16, 1889, and was educated at the Science Hill district school, and is keeping house for her father.

Mr. Owens is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He served three years as a school director, four years as constable, and has been a justice of the peace since 1904. Since 1907 he has been a school trustee. His public duties also include his service as deputy assessor during 1913 and 1914, so he is a very busy man. He belongs to the Woodman Accident Association.

PALMER, Martin J., M. D., physician and surgeon, is recognized as one of the leading men in his profession in Cass County, while at Beardstown his skill and ability are recognized by an appreciative clientele. Dr. Palmer was born at Mansfield, Ohio, November 18, 1860, a son of Dr. John and Rachel B. (Morrison) Palmer, natives of Jefferson County, Ohio, and of Pennsylvania, who married in Ohio. Dr. John Palmer practiced medicine at Mansfield and through the surrounding country prior to April, 1865, when he brought his family to Shelbyville, Ill., and bought a farm in Shelby County. There he farmed for a time and then retired to Beardstown, where his death occurred in August, 1885, his wife surviving until April, 1899. The following children were born to them: Mary, who is deceased; Irwin H., who died in March, 1913; Anna, who is the widow of Johnson Clark of Devil's Lake, N. D.; Martin J.; Emma, who is deceased, was Mrs. John Shaad; and Lelia, who is of Beardstown.

When he was twenty years old, Martin J. Palmer entered Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa, and was graduated therefrom in 1883, becoming a student in the Eclectic Medical Institute, of Cincinnati, Ohio, from which he was graduated in 1888. In that year he entered upon a general practice at Arcadia, Morgan County, Ill., continuing there until 1900, when he sold to Dr. Wolf and located at Beardstown, where he has since continued.

On July 14, 1885, Dr. Palmer was married to Ida Hodges, a step-daughter of Ezra and Mary (Debond) Fish. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer became the parents of two children: Rex, who was born July 17, 1886, died March 27, 1906, aged eighteen years; and Wylla, who was born February 27, 1897, and now is a student in the Beardstown High school. Dr. Palmer is a member of the Congregational church. Elected on the Republican ticket, he served two years as county physician of Cass County. Fraternally he is a member of the Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor, and is popular in all.

PARKER, Charles C.—For about thirty-five years the subject of this sketch, whose home is in Beardstown, Cass County, Ill., has been in charge of trains on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and is widely known as one of the most safe, attentive, affable and reliable conductors on the road. Both in railroad circles and through the community of which he is a member, Mr. Parker has hosts of friends who admire him for his worthy traits of character, as illustrated in the performance of his daily duties for so long a period, and for the social courtesies and amenities which have made him an estimable neighbor and a steadfast friend.

Charles C. Parker was born in Whitehall, Ill., October 2, 1857, a son of Peter and Almira Aseneth (Wilcox) Parker, the father a native of Syracuse, N. Y., and the mother of Illinois, her birthplace being Exeter, Scott County. Peter Parker was a wheelwright by trade, and in 1850 settled in the town of Sparta, Ill., and followed that occupation. He served during the Civil war in Company K, Fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was married at Waverly, Ill., February 14, 1855, and continued to work at his trade until the time of his death, October 12, 1911. His wife died in May, 1880. Their children were as follows: Charles C.; Seymour B., of Chicago; Richard Y., deceased; George, of Little Rock, Ark.; and Harry, of Laporte, Ind.

In youth Charles Parker attended the public and high schools at Sparta, Ill., and at the age of twenty-one years, started to work in the train service of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company at Beardstown. For a year and a half he served as brakeman, when he was promoted to be freight conductor. After being employed in the latter capacity for five years, he was made conductor of a passenger train from St. Louis to Rock Island.

On May 9, 1889, Mr. Parker was united in marriage with Lovina Hendricker, born in Cass County, Ill., a daughter of Conrad and Minnie (Hackman) Hendricker, of the same county. The grandparents were Frederick and Angeline (Meyer) Hackman, natives of Germany, and Frederick and Elizabeth (Kuhl) Hendricker, also of German nativity. All were early settlers



J. W. Virgin



Lou M. Virgin

in Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Parker have two children, namely: Charles Oscar, of Chicago, born December 21, 1890; and Gilbert Maurice, of Purdue Institute, Lafayette, Ind., born March 18, 1893.

Mr. Parker in politics acts with the Democratic party. He belongs to the O. R. C., of Beardstown. The entire family is held in high respect by all who know them.

PARKHURST, John I., D. D. S.—In no profession has such progress been made as that of dental surgery, and the men who are engaged in the preservation and replacing of teeth, deserve more than ordinary credit for the results of their labors. There is no excuse today for anyone having decayed teeth, or allowing their mouths to be in poor condition therefrom, for no community is without one or more skilled and highly trained members of this important profession. One of the men who justly holds the respect and professional confidence of the people of Cass County, as well as of the members of his own scientific calling, is Dr. J. I. Parkhurst, of Virginia.

John I. Parkhurst was born in New Jersey, August 19, 1852, and when five years old was brought to Havana, Ill., by his parents. There he grew to manhood, attending the grammar and high school, later entering the dental department of the Northwestern University at Chicago, and was graduated therefrom. For the following two years he was engaged in dental practice at Havana, but then came to Virginia, Cass County, and since 1879 has been engaged in a professional work at this point. His office is conveniently located in the Fisher building on the south side of the square. Keeping abreast of all discoveries in his profession, Dr. Parkhurst belongs to the local, state and national dental societies. Since about 1888 he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity, being raised at Virginia.

Dr. Parkhurst was married at Virginia to Nannie Berry, a daughter of Keeling and Nancy (Hopkins) Berry. Dr. and Mrs. Parkhurst have had three children, namely: Laird Carlton, who is in a grain business in Sangamon County, Ill.; Georgia, who is a teacher in the Virginia High school; and Josephine L., who is a clerk in the Venable's dry goods store at Virginia.

PARRY, Charles W.—Experience has proven that those who have been carefully trained along business lines both theoretically and practically, are the men who best discharge the duties of public life. One of the men who had excellent business experience before assuming such duties is Charles W. Parry, deputy county clerk of Cass County, residing at Virginia. He was born at Bluff Springs, June 16, 1885, a son of Charles E. and Mary A. (Reichert) Parry.

After attending the public schools of his native place, Mr. Parry entered the Jacksonville Business College, where he took a thorough commercial course. Following this, he entered the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, and for four years was a clerk in the superintendent's office and in the freight office at Beardstown, Ill. Leaving there in December, 1910, he came to Virginia, and is now deputy county clerk. Fraternally, Mr. Parry belongs to the Modern Woodmen, and is also a Mason, taking great interest in both orders. He is a young man of ability, and is very popular with the people of Cass County.

PASCHAL, John J., a justice of the peace, and a prosperous agriculturalist of Cass County, is one of the leading men of his community, where his influence is always exerted towards securing progressive action. He was born in Monroe Precinct, Cass County, February 3, 1864, a son of Rev. Jarrett B. and Margaret (Schaeffer) Paschal, natives of Tennessee and Dayton, Ohio, respectively. The paternal grandparents were Isaiah and Agnes Paschal, who were natives of Tennessee and came to Cass County, Ill., at a very early day. The maternal grandfather, John Schaeffer, with his wife, Christena and family, came from Dayton, Ohio, to Cass County during the winter of 1831-2, and bought of David Black the west half of section 11, township 17, range 11, much of the land being in timber. He owned several hundred acres, and when his daughter married, she and her husband settled on some of this property. Here Jarrett B. Paschal died in 1865, his widow surviving him until 1897, when she passed away on her father's old homestead. The children of these parents were as follows: Malinda J., who became Mrs. Elias Davis of Sunset, Wash.; Mary M., who became Mrs. Charles McNeil of Airdrie, Alberta, Canada; Elizabeth, who became Mrs. J. E. Treadway, of Virginia Precinct; Virginia Agnes, who died in 1909; Luther M., who is of Virginia, Ill.; Kate Gertrude, who became Mrs. T. D. Richardson, of Jacksonville, Ill.; and John J.

John J. Paschal remained at home with his mother and received a district school education before he went to Whipple Academy and the Jacksonville Business College. At the age of twenty-one years, he started teaching school and so continued for twelve years. After the death of his mother he bought the interests of the other heirs in the old home, and on this property he does general farming.

On June 24, 1902, Mr. Paschal was married to Alice Hinchee, who was born at Philadelphia, Ill., a daughter of James Monroe and Mary E. (Clark) Hinchee, natives of Sangamon County and Cass County, Ill., respectively. The grandparents were William and Margaret (Ray) Hinchee, of Illinois, and William and Elizabeth (Wammack) Clark, of Tennessee and Illinois, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Paschal have had two children: Lois Nadine, who was born May 20, 1905; and Glenroie, who was born September 20, 1908. Mr. Paschal belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian church, while his wife is a member of the Christian church. He is a Democrat and has been an election judge and has served as a justice of the peace continuously since 1902. He

has also been precinct committeeman for three terms, and clerk of the school board for six years. For many years he has been either superintendent or assistant superintendent of the Union Sunday schools, and is much interested in religious work.

PAUL, Charles Edward.—The various activities which have attracted the attention and benefitted by the exertions of Charles Edward Paul, have stamped him as one of the energetic, progressive and capable business men of Cass County. Farming and merchandising have both been mediums through which he has gained success, and while he is now somewhat retired, he still owns large interests, and also he has found the time and had the inclination to serve his community in official capacities and to engage actively in fraternal and social life. Mr. Paul was born October 19, 1857, in Cass County, Ill., and is a son of Jacob Miller Paul.

The district schools of Cass County furnished Mr. Paul with his educational training, and, being reared to agricultural pursuits, he early adopted the vocation of farming and was successful in the accumulation of a handsome property of 100 acres, located in the vicinity of Virginia, the greater part of which is now rented out. During a period of twenty-five years he has been superintendent of a prosperous coal business at Virginia, which for twenty-five years has been located at the station of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, but he has recently disposed of his interests therein, having decided to retire from business life. He has always taken an active interest in public affairs, and has served his community as treasurer for one term and as alderman of Virginia for two terms, or four years. In fraternal affairs he has taken a prominent part, being a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, treasurer of the local lodge of Masons for six years, and a member of the Odd Fellows for a period of thirty-five years, having passing through all the chairs and represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of the state. For thirty years he has been a member of the Christian church, in the work of which he has taken an active part, and during the past twenty years has served as deacon.

Mr. Paul was married in 1878 to Miss Addie M. Dean, daughter of James Dean, and to this union there have been born three children: Stella, who is now Mrs. Fred Fisher, of Virginia; Harry E., who is engaged in the hardware and plumbing business at Carey, Ohio; and Nellie L., who is the wife of Edgar W. Bishop, of Independence, Iowa.

PETEFISH, Louis A.—Few citizens of Cass County have been more prominently or helpfully identified with the business, agricultural and financial interests of this flourishing section of Illinois than has Louis A. Petefish, now residing at Virginia, a citizen who has at all times shown a commendable desire to advance the welfare of his community. He has spent practically his entire life within the borders of Cass County, where he was born July 22, 1860, a son of Samuel H. and Nancy M. (Hudson) Petefish.

The Petefish family has long been identified with Cass County, and its members now own about 1,400 acres of valuable land here. Christian Petefish, the grandfather of Louis A., came to this county in 1833 and built a small log cabin, taking up his residence among the pioneers. Later he purchased 195 acres, and built a commodious home, and here continued to reside until the time of his death, the farm having since been increased to 520 acres.

Louis A. Petefish attended the public schools of Cass County and the Gem City Business School, following which he was employed in a grocery store for six months and then turned his attention to farming. Subsequently he entered the private bank of Petefish, Skiles & Company, of which his father was one of the founders, and continued therein until the elder man's death in 1902, since which time the institution has been reorganized as a state bank, with a capital of $60,000. Mr. Conover was its first president, and was succeeded by Mr. Skiles, who, in turn, was succeeded by Louis A. Petefish. He held the presidency until his resignation in September, 1913, at that time moving to Springfield. He was a director of the Mount Sterling Bank of Brown County until 1913, his father having been one of the founders of that bank as well as the bank at Rushville, and is still a director in the bank of Petefish, Skiles & Company, at Virginia. Now the greater part of his attention is given to the management of his other interests, which include numerous farms and other valuable properties. Mr. Petefish is a Blue Lodge and Chapter Mason, and has held a number of offices in that order, is connected with the Odd Fellows, and is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen. His religious connection is with the Presbyterian church.

On October 22, 1885, Mr. Petefish was married to Miss Carrie L. Stribling, daughter of Isaac Milton and Maria (Carr) Stribling, and they have one daughter, Maria S., living at home.

PHELPS, John William, who is one of the oldest citizens of Cass County, Ill., in period of residence, is one of its best and most favorably known citizens. His entire life of more than seventy-two years has been spent in Cass County, with the exception of the three years devoted to the service of his country in the field during the war for the Union. In that great struggle he served throughout his full term, sealing his devotion to the common cause by the shedding of his blood. Since the war he has devoted his time to the cultivation of the soil in the vicinity of Chandlerville, Cass County, and has met with success in his labors.

John William Phelps was born three miles east of the city of Virginia, Ill., August 17, 1842, a son of Young and Cynthia (Cheek) Phelps, natives of Logan County, Ky. The parents came to Illinois when young, and after their marriage, settled in Cass County, where they remained about ten years, moving then to Mason County,

Ill., which they made their home for a time. Returning to Cass County, Young Phelps purchased a farm near Chandlerville, on which he died March 10, 1878, his widow passing away April 24, 1883. Their children were as follows: Chandler, of Chandlerville; Charles, Cynthia Ann and Melinda, all deceased; Eliza (Mrs. Taylor), who died in Nebraska; and Alice (Mrs. William Patterson), a widow, now of Bath, Ill.

In his youth John W. Phelps attended the common schools of his neighborhood, and remained at home until the time of his enlistment for the Civil war. On August 21, 1861, he entered Company K, Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at Springfield, and was assigned to the western army. In November, 1861, Mr. Phelps was wounded in the right leg, above the knee, by a gunshot at Black Well Station, on Black River, which necessitated his being sent home for three months. Returning to his regiment he completed his term of service and was in all the battles from St. Louis to New Orleans, being engaged in the siege of Vicksburg, at Corinth, Natchez, and the others. From New Orleans he was sent by ship to New York, in charge of prisoners, en route for Blackwell's Island, and after this duty was over, he was sent to Springfield, Ill., and was honorably discharged, October 11, 1864.

Two years after his return home, Mr. Phelps was married, on April 24, 1866, to Mary E. Briggs, who was born in township 18, range 9, Cass County, August 19, 1849, a daughter of Charles K. and Susan Caroline (Haynes) Briggs, the father a native of Rhode Island and the mother of North Carolina. Following his marriage, Mr. Phelps rented a farm near Chandlerville for a few years, and subsequently rented another, which he cultivated until November 10, 1884. Then he bought 120 acres from his father-in-law's estate, to which his wife added eighty acres of land she had inherited, making 200 acres of rolling land on the rich bottoms near Chandlerville. Here Mr. Phelps has since carried on farming and stockraising, his labors meeting with success. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have had the following children: Lydia (Mrs. Charles Whitenack), of Broken Arrow, Okla., who has one child, Claude; John, who died at the age of five years; Lucy E. (Mrs. William Cook), of Chandlerville, who has two children, William and Walter; Anna, who died in infancy; Walter, who married Delia Watkins, has three children, Percy, Florence and Mildred; Wallace O., who married Eva May Watkins, has three children, Howard O., John R., and Hazel M.; and Lora (Mrs. Howard Murphy), of Cass County, who has had three children, Hazel, deceased, Helen and Harlan.

Mr. and Mrs. Phelps are highly esteemed by their neighbors and have many friends. In politics, Mr. Phelps is a Republican and has served the public as a school director. He belongs to Downing Post, G. A. R., at Virginia, Ill.

PHELPS, Walter W.—The livery business is an inviting field of work in a rural district to one who is an expert in deciding on the points and conditions of horses, careful and economical in the details of management and pays strict attention to his affairs. Such a man is Walter W. Phelps, who purchased the Haywood Livery, at No. 121 East Second street, corner of Jefferson street, in Beardstown, on February 8, 1913. Later he rented this and occupies the place belonging to William Morrison where he does heavy and light livery business, feeding, etc. He keeps three cabs for hire and works 14 head of good horses.

Mr. Phelps was born in Beardstown, on East Sixth street, on May 19th, 1884, and is a son of William H. and Elizabeth (Webber) Phelps. His father was born in North Carolina and the birth of his mother occurred in New York. Walter received his early school training in the Beardstown public schools and afterwards, for two years, was engaged in the button trade, his specialty being the manufacture of pearl buttons. In this line he employed a number of hands, running seven machines. He sold the concern to Fletcher & Tiemeyer, who are now conducting it at the foot of Clay street, in Beardstown.

Mr. Phelps is unmarried and lives with his mother. His father was engaged in farming until he settled in Beardstown, and was retired from active life at the time of his death. The mother's residence is now at No. 605 Humboldt street. Mr. Phelps is an industrious and honorable young man. He is well liked among his neighbors and acquaintances, and bids fair to enjoy a prosperous future.

PHILLIPS, Hon. Henry, formerly county judge of Cass County, and a lawyer of much more than ordinary ability, occupies a very high position among the members of his profession, although for some years he has not been in active practice, owing to ill health. During the days when he participated in the jurisprudence of his section, there was not a more forceful advocate to be found in the state than he, and his triumphs are matters of history. He was born in Halifax, N. S., September 17, 1836, a son of Michael Phillips, a native of Ireland. Judge Phillips had the misfortune to lose his mother at his birth. When still in infancy his father, who was a shoemaker by trade, moved to New York City, where he lived until 1842, at which time he went to Rochester, N. Y., and after three years located in Orleans County, N. Y., where Henry received his early educational training in the public schools. The youth later attended Yates Academy, and when sixteen years old began teaching school.

In 1853 Henry Phillips came to Hardin County, Ill., where for six months he taught school, and for six months more taught school at Pittsfield, Pike County, Ill. Still later he went to Adams County and became a preacher, so continuing for two years. Being attracted then to Cass County he located at Virginia, and taught school during the winter months until the fall of 1860, when he was elected circuit clerk of the county, serving eight years. He then came to Beards-

town, which was then the county seat, and began the practice of law, taking Garland Pollard as a partner, this connection continuing until the death of Mr. Pollard. In 1890 he was elected county judge of Cass County and served as such for eight years. Failing health then demanded that he retire, and in 1913 he gave up his practice. Judge Phillips served as Grand Master of the Odd Fellows for a year, and was made a Mason at Virginia, Ill. In politics he has always been a Democrat.

Judge Phillips was married to Adeline Pollard, a native of Vermont, who died February 2, 1877, and they had the following children: Henry G., who is deceased; Jennie, who is Mrs. Parker, a widow residing in Chicago; and Mary and Grace, both of whom are deceased. On October 18, 1877, Judge Phillips was married to Emma E. Burrows, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, a daughter of James H. and Nancy (Lynchard) Burrows. Judge and Mrs. Phillips have had the following children: Henry, who died in infancy; Edward O., who is in the employ of the Chicago Tribune; Charles, who is an engineer in the United States Navy; James, who is of Goldfield, Nev.; and Robert B., who is a resident of San Francisco, Cal.

PHYSANT, Mads Lorensen.—The Danes make good citizens wherever found, and in Cass County they have always been welcomed for they are known to be industrious and thrifty, makers of homes and supporters of high standards of living. One of the men who comes from that far-away northern country is Mads Lorensen Physant, who lives on section 2, township 18, range 9. He was born in Denmark, September 25, 1867, a son of Hans Jochumsen and Matte Christina (Schmidt) Physant, the former born in Denmark, May 21, 1835, and the latter in the same country, July 30, 1837. The father was excused from rendering the regular army service as he hired a substitute, feeling that his widowed mother needed him, for he was her only son. He became a farmer and prosperous man in his native land.

Mads L. Physant was educated in the common schools of Denmark, and learned to be a farmer. The law of Denmark requires military service and he served twenty months, from January 30, 1886, to October 3, 1887, in the Danish cavalry in Arhus' Third Dragoon Regiment. In 1888 he made the trip to America by himself, and for five years after his arrival in the United States worked for farmers in Menard County, Ill. He then rented land which he farmed until 1903, when he came to Cass County, and bought 100 acres of land and a sawmill and cut his own timber profitably. He then invested in 355 acres which he also cleared. Retaining his love for his native land, he has made five trips back to it, and on the last one he married, on September 20, 1912, Abblina Schmidt, born in Denmark June 5, 1885, a daughter of John and Anna (Bennetsen) Schmidt. They have a daughter, Anna Christina, born in Cass County, April 5, 1914. In politics Mr. Physant is a Republican. In religious faith he is a Lutheran. A man of quiet manner and steadfast purpose, Mr. Physant has won the respect of his neighbors.

PILGER, Louis W.—The present efficient and popular chief of police of Beardstown, Cass County, Ill., is a native of this county, born September 9, 1859, a son of William and Elizabeth (Smith) Pilger, who were born in Germany, the father in Voldak, the mother in Hesse Darmstadt. William Pilger before he grew to manhood emigrated to the United States, proceeded to Illinois, married, and bought a farm in Cass County, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Their children were: Augusta, deceased; Louis W.; Lena (Mrs. J. M. Rathman); Henry H., a grocer, of Beardstown; William, who lives on the old homestead; and Caroline, who died in infancy.

Louis W. Pilger went to the neighborhood district schools in his boyhood, and remained with his parents until his marriage. After this event he moved into Beardstown and engaged in the dray and teaming business. This he carried on for ten years, when he sold out on being elected to a public office, in which he served four years. He then joined with J. F. Duvall and Zene Sexton in forming the Beardstown Lumber & Grain Company, which conducted a line of elevators on the C., B. & Q. Railroad. These were managed by Mr. Pilger, the other partners attending to the office business in Beardstown. The officers of the company were: Louis W. Pilger, president; Zene Sexton, vice president; and J. F. Duvall, secretary. Three years later they sold out to the Farmers Elevator Company, and in 1901 Mr. Pilger was appointed chief of police of Beardstown, which office he has since held.

The children of Mr. Pilger by his first marriage were: Catherine (Mrs. E. R. Leggett), deceased; Bertha, who lives with her father; and Omer C., a civil engineer at Beardstown. The mother of this family, died in 1902. For his second wife Mr. Pilger took, in 1906, Dora Patchen, who was born in St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Pilger was a widow with one daughter, Irene (Mrs. Edward David), of Peoria. Mr. Pilger is a member of the Fourth Street Lutheran church. In politics he is a Republican. For eight years he served as an alderman of Beardstown. Chief Pilger is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Court of Honor. He has always been considered an enterprising, public-spirited and useful member of the community. He is popular among his many acquaintances, and has rendered efficient and satisfactory public service during his official life.

PILGER, William.—Diversified farming pays in Cass County owing to the climatic conditions and nature of the soil, and the possibilities of the land have been fully developed by the enterprising agriculturists of that region, one of whom is William Pilger, of township 17, range 12. He was born at Beardstown, this county,

Orville Wright

Wilbur Wright

February 7, 1868, a son of William and Elizabeth (Schmidt) Pilger, natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, who came to this country when young, locating at Beardstown. The maternal grandfather was a Lutheran clergyman. After the marriage of the parents, they settled in Cass County, the father buying a farm four miles south of Beardstown, consisting of 240 acres of land. The mother died there in 1879.

William Pilger worked for his father until 1891, when he married, and then took over the management of the property in conjunction with his brother Henry, and the two operated it for two years. Mr. Pilger then purchased this property on which he carries on general farming, devoting about ten acres to watermelons and 125 acres to grain, and additionally raises cattle and hogs, and is very successful in his operations. In addition to his agricultural interests he owns stock in the First State Bank of Beardstown. He is a member of the Drainage Commission, and a strong Republican. The Modern Woodmen of Beardstown hold his fraternal membership.

On March 12, 1891, Mr. Pilger married Mary Hobrock, born in Cass County, September 3, 1868, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Trone) Hobrock, natives of Germany, both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Pilger have three children: Herbert, Carl, and Russell, who are all at home. Mr. Pilger is a live, enterprising farmer, excellent business man and desirable citizen, and his success is well merited.

POST, Fayette, in period of service one of the oldest conductors, on the Beardstown and Flora Division of the B. & O. R. R., formerly the O. & M. R. R., is a much respected resident of Beardstown, Cass County. Here he has lived about forty years, and all who are familiar with his many good qualities as a man and a citizen, regard him with sincere respect. In personal demeanor he is very affable and agreeable, and in the performance of his important duties as conductor of a regular passenger train he has made a record for extreme care, circumspection and reliability.

Fayette Post is a native of Logan County, Ill., born April 19, 1860, a son of Lafayette and Hulda (Root) Post, whose birth took place in Vermont. Lafayette Post was formerly a merchant in Jacksonville, Ill., and moved from there to Logan County, Ill., then to Springfield, where he died in 1863, and his widow in 1871. Fayette Post lived with his brother and sisters until 1874, attending the common schools of Springfield. Then he moved to Beardstown with his brother, where he was also a pupil in the public and high schools. At the age of fifteen years he began to work in a grocery store. Shortly afterward he became express and baggage man on the O. & M. R. R., in which capacity he continued five years, being then made freight conductor. This position he held for the next three years, and was then promoted to be a passenger conductor, his run being from Beardstown to Flora. As already said, he is one of the oldest conductors on that division, in service, and none stands higher in general esteem.

On April 24, 1884, Mr. Post was united in marriage with Minnie B. Knight, born in Cass County, April 24, 1864, a daughter of Thomas and Emily (Haywood) Knight, both of English nativity. Mr. and Mrs. Post have two children: Clarence F., of Tacoma, Wash., who is in the lumber business, married Catherine Levy; and Caroline (Mrs. L. L. Simpson), of Beardstown. The Knights are very estimable people and all who enjoy their acquaintance look upon them with sincere regard.

The religious connection of Mr. Post is with the Congregational church. In political action, he supports the policies of the Republican party. Fraternally he is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M. Lodge No. 23, of Beardstown; and the O. R. C., No. 523, of Flora. Mr. Post is a stockholder in the First State Bank.

PRICE, William T., whose career is an example of the rewards to be gained by a life of earnest endeavor and steadfast effort, is now living in comfortable retirement at his handsome home in Virginia, Ill., built in 1908. A member of a sturdy pioneer family closely identified with the development of this section since the early thirties, and himself a resident of Cass County for sixty-two years, his contributions to its material welfare have been of a nature entitling him to an honorable place among the real builders of the Prairie State.

William T. Price was born in Morgan County, Ill., November 6, 1840, and is a son of Adam and Susanna (Rosenberger) Price, natives of Rockingham County, Va., who came to Illinois in 1833, where Adam Price entered a tract of land in Morgan County, which he farmed until 1852, when the family removed to Cass County, where Adam Price died in 1875 and his wife in 1880. They were parents of the following children: John W., a resident of Wilson County, Kans.; William T.; Eliza, now Mrs. James Rawlings, of Virginia; Adam C., of Clarke County, Iowa; Amanda, deceased; Mary E., now Mrs. Charles Strickler, of Sibley, Iowa; and Sarah, wife of Alfred Griffin, of Nokomis, Ill., who died in 1885.

William T. Price received his educational training in the district schools of Cass and Morgan counties, and upon attaining his majority began farming the land, near Virginia, which he still owns. His first crop of corn sold for the munificent sum of ten cents per bushel, an amount not yet collected when the Civil war claimed him as a defender of the flag, and he enlisted in August, 1862, in Company D, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Price was one of the unfortunates taken prisoner at the battle of Guntown, Miss., and for nine months experienced the horrors of confinement at Andersonville, Ga., and Florence, S. C. At the notorious Andersonville prison, he was an eye-witness to the sudden gushing up of a spring of clear water inside the prison enclosure and which was named Providence spring,

and was among the first to drink of its life-giving water. Prior to that seeming miracle, the prisoners had been forced to use the swamp water, made filthy through running first through the enemy's camp. Mr. Price returned home in August, 1865, with a war record of which he may well be proud, for at all times his faithful, brave and cheerful service won his comrades' esteem, and the commendation of his officers. Mr. Price still makes a yearly pilgrimage to Springfield, Ill., to visit his old commander, Col. John F. King, who is his warm, personal friend.

Adjoining the Price farm was that of William Marshall, and the families, united by ties of sincerest friendship, continued undisturbed after the following amusing incident, one of pioneer days. A 40-acre square, joining the Price land, and still the property of the government, appealed to William Marshall as a fine building site, the same idea occurring to Adam Price. There was much friendly discussion, but no hard feeling. Finally, however, William Marshall's brother, John Marshall, acting for him, quietly mounted a horse at midnight and started for Springfield to enter the tract. Adam Price, unaware of Marshall's departure, left similarly equipped, on the same errand three hours later. They met at the door of the Patent Office, John Marshall having in his possession the coveted paper, and, fully appreciating the humor of the situation, they journeyed home in friendliness together. William Marshall died in 1846, and his widow removed to Jacksonville, Ill., with her three daughters, Augusta, Jennie and Louisa, now deceased, maintaining a home there until her death, in 1874.

It so happened that Fate had in store a closer tie for the two families, for, on December 29, 1870, William Price was married to his former playmate, Miss Augusta Marshall, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Clutch) Marshall, and they occupied the house built by her father on the land granted him by President John Quincy Adams in 1834, referred to above. Mrs. Price died March 13, 1883. In April, 1895, thirteen years later, Mr. Price married her younger sister, Miss Jennie Marshall, who was born in Cass County in 1843. She was a graduate of the Presbyterian Academy, now Illinois College, at Jacksonville, and was the first young woman to enter the business college founded by Prof. R. C. Crampton, of the Illinois College faculty, who was a scholar of wide renown. This initial movement in 1866 expanded into the chain of schools known as Brown's Business colleges now established in all leading cities of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Price had no children, but reared as their son, Rufus C. Crampton, a grandchild of the late Prof. R. C. Crampton, born in 1888, who is now holding a responsible position with the Illinois Central Railroad Company at Louisville, Ky.

William T. Price is a man of energy and untiring industry, with progressive ideas and methods which enabled him to encompass material success along his chosen line of farming, his honorable business dealings and genial personality winning the confidence and respect of all classes. He is a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and has been an elder for many years. Politically he is a Republican, is well known in Grand Army circles, at one time being commander of Downing Post, G. A. R., with which organization he is still prominently affiliated. Mrs. Price has marked ability, evidenced by her work in the church, in the Woman's Club and various literary societies, also in "looking well to the ways of her household," and the cheerful family home on South Main street is noted for its atmosphere of genuine hospitality.

QUERNHEIM, Theodore.—The men who have devoted themselves to farming and stockraising in Cass County are gathered from among the most representative families here, and the success which has rewarded their efforts ought to lead others to follow the same vocation. One of them thus engaged is Theodore Quernheim, owner of 160 acres in township 18, range 11, section 13. He was born in Germany, March 22, 1864, a son of Henry and Lena (Huck) Quernheim, both natives of Germany, the former born in 1836, and the latter in 1844, and both died there. The father was a cigar-maker in his home in Burnde-Herford, Germany.

Theodore Quernheim attended the common schools in Germany, and after coming to the United States immediately began working for farmers in Cass County, Ill. This work suited him so well that he continued in this line of endeavor, in time purchasing his present farm, which he still conducts. He is a Republican, but has held no offices, being too busy with his own affairs to enter public life. The Fourth Street Lutheran church of Beardstown holds his membership.

In 1893 Mr. Quernheim was married, in Cass County, to Minnie Meyer, who was born in Cass County, September 22, 1872, and died in 1913. She was a daughter of Charles H. and Lizzie (Carls) Meyer, natives of Germany and of Cass County, farming people. Mr. and Mrs. Quernheim had four children: Walter William, Edna E., Ethel and Ralph C., all of whom were born in Cass County. Mr. Quernheim is a hard working, thrifty man, whose accommodating spirit and genial manner win him many friends who hold him in high esteem.

QUIGG, Henry C.—Among the many fine farms in Cass County, Ill., are to be found some, the titles to which have remained in the same family for several generations. Since the ancestors of the present owners came into possession of the original tracts, the face of nature and the conditions prevailing have undergone wonderful changes, and land values have been enhanced to an amazing degree. Such is the fact in regard to the farms of the Quigg family.

Henry C. Quigg was born in Cass County, Ill., August 5, 1858, the location of his birth being township 17, range 10 west. He is a son of Henry and Margaret (Cotney) Quigg, the former

born in Wilmington, Del., May 27, 1827, and the latter on the Atlantic Ocean, in March, 1830, during the passage from Ireland. The grandparents were William and Sarah (Rogers) Quigg. William Quigg was born in County Derry, Ireland, and with his brother emigrated to the United States in 1822. In 1832 William Quigg was superintendent of the macadamizing of Pennsylvania Avenue, in Washington, D. C., and with his brother, at a later period, became a contractor on the first division of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, also doing general contract work. The mother came to Beardstown, Ill., living subsequently at Grand Rapids, Mich. Henry and Margaret (Cotney) Quigg were married in Cass County, February 22, 1852, and settled on a farm of 150 acres which he had purchased in township 17, where he made his home until he died, March 19, 1896, his wife having passed away January 3, 1892, and both were laid to rest in Walnut Ridge Cemetery. He had added to his land until it amounted to 425 acres.

In 1882 Henry Quigg was elected assessor, and served also as treasurer of Cass County for four years, also filling other offices. He participated in the organization of the Centennial National Bank, of Virginia, of which he was vice-president at the time of his death. He and his wife had the following children: James F., deceased; William T., of Oklahoma City, Okla.; John M., deceased; Henry C.; Sarah A., on the home farm; Stephen A., of Morgan County, Ill.; and Anna who lives at home.

Henry C. Quigg, who has always remained on the homestead, received his early school training in the public schools, and after reaching manhood, applied himself to the cultivation of the farm. In 1897 the estate was settled, and Mr. Quigg received as his share 135 acres, his sisters being awarded 164 acres each. Mr. Quigg has also been engaged in feeding stock on an extensive scale, but since 1900 he has rented out his land. Neither he nor his sisters ever married. In religious belief, Mr. Quigg is a Catholic; politically, he supports the principles of the Democratic party. He is a man of honorable character, and has the respect of all who know him.

RAUSCH, Martin.—Through the efforts of the more enterprising of Cass County farmers, the agricultural interests of this section have prospered, and all are benefiting as a result of their hard work and practical methods. One of these is Martin Rausch, of township 18, range 9, who was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, October 26, 1876, a son of Martin and Mary (Faust) Rausch. The mother survives and makes her home in Germany.

Martin Rausch, who bears his father's name, came from Germany to the United States in 1893. He located at Virginia, Ill., and worked on farms in the neighborhood for fifteen years, then rented land, all the while saving his money. In the fall of 1906 he settled permanently on his wife's farm of 155 acres, at Richmond Point, and has made many improvements here and successfully carries on general farming and hog and cattle raising. He works hard and gets excellent results.

On September 6, 1906, Mr. Rausch married Anna Horstman, who was born in Fulton County, Ill., January 17, 1872, a daughter of Henry and Semtka (Doering) Horstman, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Rausch have no children. Mr. Rausch belongs to the Lutheran church. In politics he is a Democrat.

REARICK, Walter S.—The subject of this personal record is a member of a family whose name has been prominently associated with events in Cass County, Ill., from a somewhat early period, and Walter S. Rearick himself has been one of the principal business men of the town of Ashland for a number of years, besides serving in several responsible civic positions. He is now president of the State Bank in Ashland organized under the management of Skiles, Rearick & Co., with a capital of $50,000, surplus, $25,000.

Walter S. Rearick is a native of Beardstown, Ill., where he was born July 19, 1856, a son of Francis H. and Helen M. (Shaw) Rearick, the father born in Germany in the year 1829, and the mother in Boston, Mass., her death occurring in 1905. The paternal grandparents located in southern Pennsylvania about the year 1835, journeying thence in 1860 to Beardstown, where they spent the remainder of their lives. On the maternal side the grandparents were Joseph and Sarah (Bird) Shaw, the former of Massachusetts, and the latter of Maine. They came to Beardstown from Morgan County, Ill., about the year 1860. All the grandparents of Mr. Rearick are buried in the same lot in the Beardstown cemetery. Francis H. Rearick was in the stove and tinware business in company with his brother, J. W. Rearick. He was married to Helen M. Shaw in Beardstown. In 1858 Francis H. Rearick was elected sheriff of Cass County, serving one term. A few years later he was elected to the office of county judge and held the office two terms. In 1874 he disposed of his business interests here and moved to Galesburg. He and his wife had the following children, namely: Harry, of Galesburg, Ill.; Walter S.; Fannie (Mrs. W. B. Barnes), of Albuquerque, N. M.; Mrs. Louis Becker, of Knoxville, Ill.; Allen, of New York City, attorney for the C. & O. R. Railroad.

When a youth, Walter S. Rearick received his education in the common schools of Beardstown. In 1874 he entered the Cass County Bank at Beardstown, as bookkeeper, and in 1878 he was elected cashier, in which capacity he served until September, 1881. Then he resigned, and with Petefish Skiles & Co., bankers, of Virginia, organized the Banking House of Riley, Rearick Co., of Ashland, he becoming cashier of said bank. When the bank was incorporated he was elected president, H. B. Baxter being elected vice-president, James J. Wyatt, cashier, and E. R. Clemons, assistant cashier.

On April 13, 1882, Walter S. Rearick was united in marriage with Rachel Housekeeper, born in Beardstown, Ill., a daughter of Cheney and Emma (De Haven) Housekeeper, natives of Philadelphia. Mrs. Rearick's father was an attorney, who located in Beardstown in 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Rearick have had the following children, namely: Clarice, a teacher at the Chicago Training School; Helen, at home; Annette (Mrs. Harry J. Lohman), of Ashland, Ill.; and Addie, who died in 1893, at the age of five years.

In politics, Mr. Rearick is a Democrat, and has served one year as city clerk of Beardstown, and as treasurer of township 17, range 8, since 1885. His religions connection is with the Methodist Episcopal church in which he officiated as steward and trustee, and has been superintendent of the Sunday school since 1887. He is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., belonging to Ashland Lodge, No. 929; De Witt Chapter, No. 19, Petersburg, Ill.; and Hospitaler Commandery, of Jacksonville.

REID, Stuart, one of the substantial farmers of Cass County, is operating 160 acres in township 18, range 10. He was born on his grandfather's farm, about one mile east of the farm he now occupies, November 11, 1855, a son of Duncan and Jane (Wilkie) Reid, the former born in 1808, and the latter November 20, 1818, both being natives of Perthshire, Scotland, where they married in 1839. In June, 1855, they came to the United States, and before locating at Beardstown, Ill., they had endured many hardships and with a fortitude this generation can scarcely comprehend, making a portion of the trip on foot. They spent a year in the vicinity of Virginia, Ill., and the father worked for James Cunningham for a year, following this he rented land from Robert Taylor, which was located two miles west of Mr. Reid's present farm. As soon as he had sufficient money saved up, Duncan Reid bought 120 acres of land which was then covered with brush and timber, but soon he had a space cleared on which to build a log cabin. With the assistance of his sons, the father then began to put his land under cultivation. Until his death he continued to carry on general farming and stock-raising. He was a Democrat and served his community as a school director. His death occurred April 14, 1883. The mother survives, making her home with her son Stuart. These parents had the following children: William, who is of Cass County; Agnes, who died at the age of eight years in Scotland; Mary, who died at the age of five years in Scotland: Grace, who died at the age of two years in Scotland; James, who died in infancy in Scotland; Jean, who resides with his mother; Susan, who is teaching school in Chicago; Margaret, who is Mrs. A. R. Taylor of Virginia, Ill.; Stuart; and Duncan, who is of Bluff Springs, Ill.

Stuart Reid resided with his parents, attending the schools of his district, and when he became of age commenced working among the farmers. Within a year, however, he returned to the homestead where he has since remained, conducting the farm for his mother and owns forty acres adjoining on the east.

On March 15, 1894, Stuart Reid married Mrs. Mary (Caywood) McGee, born July 24, 1868, widow of Everett McGee, and daughter of John and Martha (Morrison) Caywood of Cass County. By her first marriage Mrs. Reid had one child, Maud E., now Mrs. Orel Jentry of Virginia, Ill., who has three children, Everett C., Ira K. and Clarence E. Mr. and Mrs. Reid have the following children: James E., Nellie E., Dewey E., Kenneth E., Glenn M., Stella G. and Mary S., all of whom are at home. Mr. Reid is affiliated with the Presbyterian church. He belongs to the Republican party and is active in public affairs in this connection. For some years he has been a member of Virginia Lodge, M. W. A. No. 588, and is popular in that organization. An honored member of the Reid household is the aged mother of Mr. Reid, who is a most remarkable lady, retaining at her advanced age all of her faculties and enjoying life like one who has barely passed her fiftieth year.

REID, William.—In reviewing the lists of men who served this country during the Civil war, it is remarkable to note how many were of foreign birth. Many of these soldiers had not long been in this land, when they freely offered themselves to the service of their adopted country, and among those who belong to this class is William Reid, of township 18, range 11, now one of Cass County's responsible men. He was born in Perthshire, Scotland, January 19, 1840, a son of Duncan and Jane (Wilkey) Reid, who, in 1855, came to the United States, locating on a farm in Cass County. The father bought 125 acres in township 18, range 11, where he died about 1880, but the mother survives, at this time of writing having attained to the extremely advanced age of ninety-five years.

Until he was twenty-one years old, William Reid remained with his parents. His educational training was obtained in the schools of his native land, as he was engaged in hard work on his father's farm after coming here. After attaining his majority, he began working for neighboring farmers, but in 1868 moved to Philadelphia, Cass County, and was engaged in farming in that vicinity. Moving some years later to the Sangamon River bottoms, he now rents a magnificent 400-acre farm, of which he has fifty acres in a high state of cultivation, raising grain exclusively, having found by experimenting that his land is best adapted for this purpose. On February 22, 1865, Mr. Reid enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company A, Sixth Illinois Cavalry, and was in Mississippi and Alabama. He received his honorable discharge at Salem, in the latter state, November 5, 1865.

In 1868, Mr. Reid married his cousin, Ann W. Reid, who was born in Scotland. She died July 9, 1901, having borne her husband the following family: Duncan J., who is of Omaha, Nebr.;

William S., who was killed in January, 1914, at Hope, Kans., by the accidental discharge of a gun, resided on a farm of 308 acres of land owned by his father; and Oliver E., who lives with his father. Mr. Reid belongs to the Cumberland Presbyterian church, in which he has been a presiding elder since 1890. In politics he is a Republican, and has served as road commissioner and school director. For years he has been a member of Chandlerville Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 724. A quiet, conservative man, he has always lived up to his convictions, and is highly respected by all who know him.

REITHER, Andrew.—One of the old and honored citizens of Virginia, Ill., holding prestige as the pioneer florist of this prosperous community, is Andrew Reither, a man of substance and true worth, who has spent the greater part of his career here and through well-directed effort has met with a full measure of success. His life has been a singularly active one, passed in varied occupations and characterized in each by fidelity to engagements and honorable dealing. Mr. Reither was born March 17, 1846, in Germany and his parents, Andrew and Sophia (Commetdollar) Reither, were natives of Strassburg, Germany. The sailing vessel on which they were passengers lost its bearings and it was six months before it finally reached the harbor of New York, from whence the parents made their way to Beardstown, Ill. Mr. Reither, the father, was engaged in blacksmithing until his death in 1879. The mother survived him ten years. They were the parents of the following children: Andrew; Sophia, who is deceased; John, who is a resident of Beardstown; Philip; Kate, who became the wife of John Weaver, of Beardstown; Carrie, who is now Mrs. Richard Dennis, of California; and Edward, of Chicago.

After securing his education in the public schools, Andrew Reither began to learn the barber trade, and at the age of nineteen years took up that vocation at Jacksonville. Subsequently he came to Virginia, where he was the proprietor of a tonsorial establishment for fourteen years, and at the end of that period embarked as a florist, erecting the first greenhouses in this place. He is now the owner of one block and six lots in Virginia, with a handsome residence and modern greenhouses, raises a large amount of nursery stock, and conducts the only business of its kind in this section. During his long business career Mr. Reither has built up a substantial reputation for commercial integrity and stability, and his associates have had every reason to place the highest confidence in him. During the winter months he resides in Texas, having a property at Buda, fourteen miles from the city of Austin. Mr. Reither is a Republican, but has not been an office seeker. With his family he attends the Lutheran church.

In February, 1879, Mr. Reither was married to Miss Annie Boyd, who was born at Virginia, Ill., daughter of Capt. Charles and Susan (Carpenter) Boyd, natives of Pennsylvania. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Reither: Burt, who is engaged in business with his father; Louis, who died at the age of nine years; George, who died when seven years old; and Clyde, who was five years old at the time of his death.

REITHER, John A., assistant engineer of the city water works of Beardstown, and one of the capable, experienced men of his calling, has been connected with this plant for twenty years. He was born at Beardstown, July 24, 1851, a son of Andrew and Sophia (Comedollar) Reither, natives of Frankfurt, and of Cologne, Germany. The father was a blacksmith and farmer, who married in Germany, but took his bride to France, and thence to the United States. After landing in this country he came direct to Beardstown, arriving in this city on March 18, 1851.

John A. Reither was educated in the schools of Beardstown and learned engineering and has worked as an engineer and at pump work all his life. His promotion to the position of assistant engineer of the city water works is felt to be a well deserved elevation. He has also charge of the heating plant of the Goodell House and the Gem Theater. He owns his residence and all that he has he has earned by hard work and persistent thrift.

In April, 1895, Mr. Reither was married to Mrs. Louisa (Gilles) Lebencool, a daughter of Albert and Mary (Loyhide) Gilles. There are no children by this marriage, but Mrs. Reither had a son, Garry Lebencool, by her first marriage. Mr. Reither is a Lutheran in religious faith. In young manhood he was a Republican, but forty years ago became a Democrat and still supports the candidates of that party.

ROEGGE, William H., a well known and prosperous farmer and breeder of high grade horses in Cass County, Ill., whose farm of 280 acres is situated in township 17, range 11, and who has served as county commissioner of Cass County since the fall of 1912, and is now chairman of the board, is a native of this county, where he was born April 1, 1868. His residence is four miles northeast of Arenzville. He is a son of George and Mary (Schroeder) Roegge, natives of Germany, who, when young, came to the United States, settled in Illinois and made their home in Cass County. There, in the course of time, they were married and reared a family. George Roegge was a farmer by occupation and his operations were attended by success and he owned several hundred acres of fine land when he died, in 1908. His widow passed away in 1911. They had the following children: Sophia (Mrs. W. H. Witte); William; John H.; Emma (Mrs. H. J. Korsmeyer), all of Cass County; Lucinda (Mrs. Henry Huppe), of Morgan County, Ill.; and Henry E. and Lydia (Mrs. Christian Lovekamp), of Cass County.

William Roegge attended the Lovekamp district school, and the German school at Arenz-

ville, iu his youth, and remaiued with his parents until his marriage, which took place August 21, 1891, to Louisa Witte, born in Cass County, daughter of Heury and Minnie (Vette) Witte, natives of Germany. After he was married, Mr. Roegge moved to his present farm. On this he has erected moderu buildings, the house having been completed in 1906. He has built wire fenciug and tiled the farm thoroughly. Besides grain-raising, he is engaged in breeding registered Percheron and road horses. He also owns 136 acres in Morgau Couuty, aud he has beeu a director of the First National Bank at Arenzville, Ill.

Mr. Roegge and his wife have the followiug children: Lina, Clarence, Anua, Minnie, Elmer and Edward. Mr. aud Mrs. Roegge beloug to the Lutherau church. Iu politics Mr. Roegge acts with the Democratic party and has served six years as road commissioner.

ROHN, William.—The land of Cass County is well cultivated owing to the progressiveuess of some of the farmers, who exert themselves to bring it into a high state of productiveness. One of these meu, who is recoguized as a very successful agriculturist, is William Rohn, farmer and stockraiser of township 18, range 12, section 21. He was born in the couuty, September 27, 1854, a sou of Henry and Elizabeth (Lammeer) Rohn, natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, where the father was born in 1803, and the mother in 1804. Henry Rohn came from Germany to the United States in 1834, and was married at St. Louis, Mo., to Elizabeth Lammeer, who had come to this country in the same year. They then made their way to Beardstown where Henry Rohn worked in the packing house for one year, then took up farming and continued to follow that calling the remainder of his life ou laud he had entered from the government.

William Rohu atteuded the district schools of Cass Couuty, and spent his boyhood in farming, hunting and fishing, holding the record for duck shooting in this viciuity, having killed 165 of them in three hours duriug the spring of 1878. His farm comprises eighty acres of land, and he also has a camp which he maintains for the accommodation of hunters and fishermen that is located between some lakes and the Illiuois River, and duriug the season it is well patronized. Mr. Rohn's geuial manner aud jolly laugh make him a pleasant host and companion and he is very popular among the lovers of sport throughout the state and is one of the best known men in Cass County. A Republicau, he confines his activities in politics to votiug. The German Methodist church holds his membership.

Mr. Rohn was first married in Cass County, in 1876, to Augusta Machau and they had five children, three of whom are living: Edward, Anna C. and Fred H. On January 21, 1892, he married (second) Anua C. Mann, and they had four children, three of whom are living: Ethel M., Howard J. and Myrtle B. All of these children were born iu Cass Couuty.

ROSS, William, one of the substantial men of Cass County, for many years has been au extensive farmer aud raiser of live stock and owns many acres of highly improved laud, his home farm being situated in township 17, range 9, Cass County. He was born in County Antrim, Irelaud, November 1, 1837, a son of Samuel and Margaret (Bailey) Ross, both of whom died in Ireland.

In his native land William Ross atteuded an academy aud also a night school and when he came to the United States was a well informed young man. He set out on a sailing vessel bound for New Orleans, but storms blew the ship out of its course on the Caribbean sea, but it finally reached port after a voyage of almost seven weeks. Mr. Ross then came by steamboat to Beardstown, Ill., and then to Virgiuia, Cass County, where he found work on farms. He was faithful and industrious and within three years was reuting land for himself near the village, on which he began to raise stock. In 1861 he sold his stock and until 1863 was engaged in trading and feeding cattle, in that year buyiug ninety-two and a half acres in township 17, range 9. In the fall of 1868 he sold that place and bought 185 acres of his present farm, on which he has since lived. At that time no trees had beeu planted and what buildings were there were burned iu 1869. Mr. Ross soou erected a large frame dwelling house and immediately began to set out trees of all kinds aud now has a beautiful grove of soft maples and a three-acre orchard of apple, peach, pear, plum and cherry trees. Later Mr. Ross added eighty acres and now has 240 acres all iu township 17. He owus a farm of eighty acres in township 18, range 9, ou section 29, which he uses for stockraising purposes, and additionally owns 367 iu towuship 17, range 9, section 8, and 35 acres more on section 8. He has all his 640 acres under cultivation and the rest is in timber and used as pasture land. He has his land divided into forty-acre fields by fine wire fencing with cement posts. In 1876 Mr. Ross, with William Gilbert, bought a store at Philadelphia, Ill., in which he continued to be interested until quite recently, when he sold to George Bergin of Ashland. Mr. Ross worked hard for many years and invested wisely aud may now be called one of the wealthy men of Cass County. He is a stockholder and a member of the board of directors in the Centeuuial Bank at Virginia, Ill.

In 1862 Mr. Ross was married to Margaret Elliott, who was born in Ireland, and died September 8, 1893. She was a daughter of John and Nancy Elliott, early settlers iu Cass County. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Ross: John, of Jacksonville, Ill.; Mary, wife of Alfred Campbell; Nancy, wife of W. T. Schaner, of New London, Iowa; William, who died in Iowa July 24, 1894; Walter and Ethel, both liviug at home; Nellie, wife of Carl Thorn-

ley, of Cass County; a babe that died; Roy; Edith, who died in 1900; Hazel; and Hughie, who died at the age of two years, September 7, 1889. In politics Mr. Ross is a Democrat. He is a charter member of the M. W. A., at Virginia.

RUPPEL, Henry J. M., a prosperous general farmer and buyer of cattle, is one of the substantial men of Cass County, residing in township 17, range 11. He was born at Springfield, Ill., March 24, 1862, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Weigan) Ruppel. The father was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and came to Springfield, Ill., when young. The mother, also a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, was a daughter of Frederick Weigan, who located at Springfield, Ill., when Mrs. Ruppel was a child, but later moved to Beardstown. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ruppel were married at Springfield, and there Henry Ruppel worked as a shoemaker until 1869, when he moved to Beardstown, and with a brother started a boot and shoe manufacturing concern and also a repairing establishment, conducting both lines of business until his death in 1894. His wife died in 1896. Their children were as follows: Charles, who died August 6, 1905; Henry J. M.; Elizabeth, who died in 1913; John, Christian and Mollie, all of Beardstown.

Henry J. M. Ruppel attended the public and the German parochial schools of Beardstown, and when fourteen years old left home and began working for farmers, continuing to hire out by the month until he was twenty years old. He then rented his present farm in township 17, range 11, but a year later bought 100 acres of unimproved land, continuing, however, to operate his rented land as well. He kept adding to his holdings until he owned 1,150 acres, but later sold 650 acres and bought 1,260 acres in Rogers County, Okla., and his son, Herman C., owns 240 acres of said land. Mr. Ruppel rents out the greater part of this land. He has always been a general farmer and does a large business in buying, feeding and selling cattle.

On December 22, 1881, Mr. Ruppel married Amelia F. Krohe, born in Cass County, a daughter of August and Christina (Jockisch) Krohe of Saxony, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Krohe became the parents of the following children: F. A., who is of Beardstown; Louis, who is of Schuyler County, Ill.; Minnie, who is Mrs. Henry C. Korte, of Cass County; Henry, who is of Cass County; Louisa, who is Mrs. Theodore Lowner, a widow, of Morgan County, Ill.; Julia, who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Ruppel, and Amelia F., who is now Mrs. Ruppel, the youngest of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Ruppel became the parents of six children, namely: August H., who is of Cass County; Herman C., who is in Oklahoma; Arthur J., who is of Cass County; and Marie M., Emil H. and Rosa, who are at home. The Lutheran church holds the membership of Mr. Ruppel. He has served as road commissioner for six years, also has been supervisor, being elected on the Democratic ticket, and is a member of the Drainage Commission, of which he is clerk. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America at Bluff Springs. In every respect he is an excellent representative of the agriculturists of Cass County.

RUSSELL, Charles W.—The progressive spirit of the age has permeated every branch of endeavor, and along no line is it more clearly shown than in farming. Charles Wesley Russell of Virginia Precinct is one of the best examples of this fact, for in all of his work he aims to conserve natural resources and develop the possibilities of his property. He was born in Cass County, June 10, 1871, a son of William and Rebecca (Needham) Russell, natives of Scotland and England, respectively. These two came with their parents to Cass County about 1839, and later married, settling on a farm near Virginia. Later, retiring, they moved to Virginia, where he died September 10, 1900, his widow surviving him until January 14, 1905.

Charles W. Russell, an only child, resided with his parents until the fall of 1888, when he entered the University of Illinois at Champaign, having previously taken a high school course at Virginia, being graduated therefrom in 1893. Following this he taught school three years in the high school of Champaign, and after this he went to the state of Mississippi, where he carried on farming until the death of his father, when he returned to Virginia, and in the fall of 1901-2 taught one term in the Virginia High school. His mother became an invalid and he took care of her until death released her, after which he moved to the homestead of sixty acres. This property he has increased by buying 100 acres and here he erected the first silo in this vicinity, which was made of staves. This was demolished in 1911 by a cyclone, and he replaced it by one made of tile blocks. The farm is appropriately named the "Clover Hill" farm, and on it he raises Poland-China hogs and carries on general farming. Mr. Russell was one of the first of the Cass County agriculturists to take up scientific farming, and is continually experimenting, among other things, in the raising of alfalfa. He is putting in an extensive system of water works, and has each field connected with his general supply, and his residence is piped and is in a thoroughly sanitary condition. The tank is 14 feet in diameter and 16 feet high, and it is placed on the highest point on his farm. His work is carried on according to intensive methods, and he has used 100 tons of rock phosphate and 50 tons of ground limestone. In fact, more of his effort goes into the preliminary work than in the after cultivation. The orchard on this farm is a well selected one of varied fruits, and he tends it in the same careful manner as he does the remainder of his land. Of this land, he aims to keep 100 acres under cultivation, and the balance in pasture and timber, maintaining an average of fifteen acres of the latter. His success in the past and the magnificent future he has already outlined for his property, proves

conclusively that almost nothing is impossible to the man who conducts his farm as any man would a business, according to set rules, with due calculation regarding cause and effect. His example ought to be of inestimable value to others in his vicinity.

On February 15, 1905, Mr. Russell was married to Florence Newman, born in the vicinity of Virginia, August 14, 1881, a daughter of Alexander and Ellen (Cunningham) Newman, natives of Cass County. The grandparents of Mrs. Russell are Robert Newman and Thomas and Euphemia (Wilkie) Cunningham, natives of the Parish of Edinburg and of Abernight, Scotland. Mr. and Mrs. Russell have had three children: Mary Rebecca, who was born December 6, 1905; Edna Mae, who was born April 6, 1913; and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Russell was educated in the public schools of the county. In religious faith, she is a Presbyterian. From 1906 to 1912, Mr. Russell served as president of the Farmers Institute. For years he has been a member of Virginia Lodge No. 544, A. F. & A. M.

SALZENSTEIN, David H.—Many of the leading men of Cass County are numbered among those who have retired from active business life at an age when they are still in full possession of all their faculties and therefore able to give much of their energy thereafter to local affairs. There are some men who neglect early opportunities, and so are compelled to work on into old age, but this seems to have been the exception rather than the rule at Virginia and its neighboring villages, for here are found many men of substance who are yet in middle life. One of the retired men of the county seat of Cass County, who has accomplished much, although not yet fifty years of age, is David H. Salzenstein, who was born at Pleasant Plains, Ill., September 28, 1866, a son of Jacob and Hannah (Hexter) Salzenstein.

Growing up in his native place, David H. Salzenstein was given the educational advantages there and at Springfield, Ill., to which city the family later removed, and he also attended its business college. After he was fully prepared, he became a clerk in mercantile houses at Ashland and Beardstown, working thus from 1887 until 1890, and later conducted a grocery store at the latter place. In August, 1892, he located at Virginia and opened a dry goods, clothing and boot and shoe establishment, and so energetically devoted himself to its conduct, that when he and his partner, who was his brother Solomon, sold to the corporation of Uptmor, McIntire & Breiden, on September 4, 1911, he felt justified in retiring.

On October 21, 1896, Mr. Salzenstein married Nellie Kahn, a daughter of Solomon Kahn, at Lincoln, Ill. They have three children: LeRoy J., Edgar S., and Helene, the first two attending the public school. Mr. Salzenstein joined the Masonic order at Virginia and Knights of Pythias at Ashland, Ill. In religion he is of the Jewish faith.

SAUNDERS, George Turpin, police magistrate at Beardstown, and one of the prominent figures in civic affairs, was born at Beardstown, Ill., March 22, 1845, a son of Thomas R. and Catherine (Spence) Saunders. The mother came from Tennessee with her brothers and sisters at an early day, while the father came from Philadelphia, Pa., in young manhood, and both settled at Beardstown, where they later were married. Their family consisted of eight children, five of whom died in infancy, the others being as follows: John W., George T., and Elva J., the last named a teacher in the Beardstown public schools. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Saunders married Norman Parsons, to which marriage there was no issue. Mr. Parsons had two sons, William and Melborne Parsons, who, with their father, enlisted for service in the Civil war; William, who was in Company A., Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, came home right after the battle of Shiloh and died; Melborne, in Company C, Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry; and Norman, in Company C, Third Illinois Cavalry.

After leaving school George T. Saunders enlisted for service in the Civil war, entering the Seventy-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and afterward, at St. Louis, the First Missouri Artillery, for three years. He was in numerous engagements and skirmishes, and while on scout duty in the Indian campaign, participated in many thrilling events. He was mustered out at St. Louis in September, 1865, and received his papers of honorable discharge. He returned to Beardstown and learned to be a harnessmaker, and was thus engaged more or less for about fifteen years, but during a portion of this time was a brakeman on the C. & A. Railroad. He then went to Bloomington, Ill., and worked at his trade and was a member of the Bloomington fire department for five years. From there he went to Denver, Colo., where he spent four years, working at his trade, and working also for two winters on the railroads, and in the summer prospected in the mountains. In 1884 he returned to Beardstown and for a time continued to work at his trade and then entered the employ of the C., B. & Q. Railroad. He was then elected a police magistrate and has succeeded himself for fourteen years, still holding that office. He belongs to McLean Post No. 97, G. A. R., of which he is at present adjutant. An interesting fact to him and his friends is that Magistrate Saunders, who, with another lad, ran away from school to be present at the famous Armstrong trial, in which Mr. Lincoln was concerned as a lawyer, should occupy as his office an apartment right under the room in which that trial was held.

On August 14, 1898, Mr. Saunders was married at Springfield, Ill., to Emma Gibbons, who was born in Kentucky, near the Ohio River, and was reared by an aunt, in Schuyler County, Ill. There are no children by this marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Saunders are living in the house his father built in 1848, on the corner of Fifth and Washington streets. At the time it was erected

it was on the outskirts of the town. Mr. Saunders has always been a Republican, inheriting the political views of his father, an old-line Whig, who died in 1851, before the birth of the Republican party.

SAVAGE, Charles W., grain dealer, and an efficient business man and public spirited citizen at Virginia, Ill., was born three miles from Virginia, Cass County, January 12, 1853, and is a son of Henry S. and Sarah Frances (Ward) Savage, who were the parents of thirteen children, eight of whom died in infancy. The father, Henry S. Savage, died in 1865, and the mother reared the five surviving children carefully and conscientiously. They were as follows: Charles W., Edward E., Louis L. and H. S., all residing in Cass County; and Nellie, who married Henry Collins and died in Spokane, Wash., in 1897, leaving two children, Ward and Elizabeth Collins.

John Savage, the grandfather, came to Morgan County, Ill., in 1822, and settled at Diamond Grove, where his son, Henry S. was born in 1824. He came from New York to Morgan County, and a few years later removed to Cass County, took up government land and became a man of substance and prominence, owning large bodies of land at time of death in 1863, and having served as sheriff of Cass County for two terms. John Savage married Elizabeth Smith, who died in January, 1875, aged seventy-five years. They had the following children: Spencer, Henry S., John, George, Charles, Emily (Mrs. John Pratt), and Harriet (Mrs. Oliver Silverthorn). John Savage built the first log house at Jacksonville and there are traces of his building work still to be found in different parts of the county. The maternal grandfather, Jacob Ward, came from Kentucky to Arcadia, Morgan County, where he was one of the first settlers and later removed to Cass County where he became a very prominent man and was one of the county commissioners at the time Cass was separated from Morgan County. He married Eliza Stephenson and they had two children, Jane, who married James Beggs and died one year after marriage, and Sarah Frances, who became the wife of Henry S. Savage.

Charles Ward Savage grew up on his father's farm and attended the local schools and also those of Jacksonville. For about seven years after beginning to work for himself, Mr. Savage engaged in farming. In 1878 he came to Virginia where he embarked in a grain and lumber business, and has since conducted the grain business on a large scale, the firm style being C. W. Savage & Son. Although he has served three times as mayor of Virginia, he was never a candidate for the office, but proved exceedingly efficient and useful when elected and it was during his administration that the pavements were laid, the sewer system put in and other public improvements started.

Mr. Savage was married at Davenport, Iowa, January 6, 1875, to Kittie S. Kelley, a daughter of Moses and Harriet (Morse) Kelley, and they have had five children: Louise, wife of Clifford Ireland, of Peoria, Ill.; Mae, who is at home; Harriet, wife of E. B. Conover, of Springfield, Ill.; Kathryn, who is the wife of John McHenry, of Springfield; and Charles C., who is associated in business with his father, married Lucilla Fullenweider, and they have one child, Caroline. The mother of the above children died in 1893, aged thirty-seven years. Mr. Savage was married again in 1897, at Petersburg, Ill., to Nellie, a daughter of Daniel Rule. Mr. Savage has passed all the chairs in the local lodge of Odd Fellows. He belongs to the Christian church and has been very active as a church official, having been a deacon for many years and secretary, clerk and treasurer for a long period.

SAVAGE, Henry Seymour, president of the Farmers National Bank of Virginia, and one of the best known figures in the banking circles of Cass County, was born in this county, August 29, 1865, a son of Henry Seymour and Sarah Frances (Ward) Savage, and the youngest of the thirteen children born to his parents. Not only did he attend the public schools of Jacksonville, to which place his parents moved when he was a child, but he also took the high school course, and entering Princeton University, was graduated therefrom in 1887. He then became a clerk in a banking institution at Spokane, Wash., and was there for five years, and on returning to Illinois in 1893, located at Virginia. His father was one of the organizers of the Farmers National Bank at that place, but died before the organization was completed. Shortly after the above bank opened for business, his mother purchased some stock and later Mr. Savage became associated with it. In 1911 he was elected its presiding officer and is still president of it.

The Farmers National Bank of Virginia was organized in 1865, with a capital stock of $50,000, and its first officers were: Samuel S. Vance, president; Henry H. Hall, vice president; John H. Wood, cashier. Its present capital is $50,000 surplus and undivided profits $40,000. The present officers are: Henry S. Savage, president; James Maslin, vice president; R. C. Taylor, cashier; V. E. Robertson, assistant cashier; and F. M. Robertson, assistant cashier. The members of the Board of Directors are: James Maslin, Detrich Brockhouse, V. E. Robertson, R. C. Taylor, and H. S. Savage.

On April 2, 1912, Mr. Savage was married at Virginia, to Edith Alba, a daughter of Archibald and Sarah (Cosner) Mains. Mr. Savage is a member of the Elks of Jacksonville. For five years he served as a member and as chairman of the Republican County Central Committee for Cass County, and was closely identified with his party's work.

SCHAAD, John C.—It is a gratifying task to trace the successive steps in the progress of those men whose advancing years have done credit to the opportunities of their earlier career, and resulted in creating conditions of

domestic prosperity and comfort within the sphere of their exertions. Of this class of farmers and stockraisers in Cass County, J. C. Schaad, whose home is in Oakford, is a conspicuous example. He was born in the county where he still resides on December 5, 1861. His father, Carl Schaad, also a farmer by occupation, was a native of Altensclerf, Germany, where his birth took place December 23, 1830, and his mother was born in Saxony in the year 1836. Carl Schaad emigrated from Germany to the United States in 1852, locating first in New Orleans. From that city he moved to St. Louis, Mo., and finally settled in Cass County.

During his boyhood J. C. Schaad attended the district school, after which he spent one term at a business college in Jacksonville, Ill., and then applied himself to the work of assisting his father in operating the home farm. The farm of Mr. Schaad consists of 176 acres of land, located in section 20, township 19, range 8, Cass County, Ill., and Oakford, Ill., is his postoffice address. In 1885 Mr. Schaad went to Kansas to farm, but after staying three years in that state returned to his farm in Cass County.

Mr. Schaad was married by Rev. Wilson to Emma Matilda Carlton, who was born in Greene County, Ill., April 25, 1881, a daughter of Isaac and Louisa (Hinson) Carlton, the former born January 11, 1844, in the vicinity of Winchester, Scott County, Ill., and the latter in Greene County, Ill., December 23, 1860. Isaac Carlton was a soldier in the Civil war, serving three years and ten months in Company F, Sixty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Mr. and Mrs. Schaad have one son, Arthur Dewey. There are four children by a former marriage: William C., Frank, Oliver, and Lila Matilda.

In politics Mr. Schaad is a Republican. He has filled the office of district commissioner for three years, and that of school director for twelve years, rendering efficient and acceptable service in both. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to Lodge No. 724, A. F. & A. M., of Chandlerville, and is also a member of Camp Pecon, M. W. A. Mr. Schaad is connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He is a very industrious man, quiet in disposition, of firm but undemonstrative character, and commands the respect and enjoys that esteem of all with whom he is brought into contact.

SCHAAD, Robert.—There are few better cultivated farms in Cass County, Ill., than that lying in township 18, range 10, n., which is the property of Robert Schaad. Although still a young man, Mr. Schaad has manifested those sterling qualities of industry, thrift, economy and sound judgment that have enabled him to forge ahead within a brief period, until, with the start given him by energetic and foresighted predecessors in the work, he can boast the ownership of one of the most desirable farming properties to be found within the limits of the county. A share of this enhancement in value is due however, to the patient toil and tireless energy of Robert Schaad's worthy parents, Andrew and Miza (Taylor) Schaad, the former a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and the latter of Campbelltown, Scotland.

Andrew Schaad came with his mother and brother to the United States and settled in Cass County, Ill., when he was sixteen years of age, and for a time worked out by the month until they started farming for themselves on rented land. Continuing thus for several years, they jointly purchased a farm which they cultivated together for a long period. About four years after his marriage Andrew Schaad bought eighty-five acres of the farm where the subject hereof now lives, and kept adding to his first purchase, until he had accumulated 200 acres of choice land on the Sangamon River bottom, also fifty acres in township 19, range 11, and sixty acres on the bluff. Here he carried on farming until his death March 7, 1912, when seventy-seven years old. His wife had passed away August 29, 1909. They had the following children: Niel, Charles and Margaret, deceased; Robert; and Catherine and Maud, who live with Robert.

The homestead farm was left to the son, Robert, who now cultivates about 150 acres, renting out the remainder. A farm of 248 acres, lying near the line of Menard County, fell to the two sisters jointly. Mr. Schaad and his two sisters also own twenty shares in the State Bank at Chandlerville. Robert Schaad was born on the Sangamon River bottom, in township 18, range 10, November 19, 1873. During his early youth he attended the district schools of his neighborhood, and for six months was a pupil in the Whipple Academy at Jacksonville. In politics, Mr. Schaad is identified with the Republican party, and since 1902, has rendered efficient public service as school director. In religious belief he is a Presbyterian. He is affiliated with Lodge No. 604, Knights of Pythias, of Chandlerville; and the D. O. K. K. of Jacksonville. He is a man who is much liked by a large circle of friends, and commands general respect among his neighbors.

SCHAAD, Thomas F., one of the substantial farmers of Cass County who is now operating the homestead of his family which he bought from the other heirs at his mother's death, was born September 25, 1874, in township 18, range 10, this county, a son of Carl and Augusta (Dietsch) Schaad, natives of Germany. They came to Cass County when young, and later married, after which they resided at Meredosia for a short period. They then bought 150 acres of land on the Sangamon River bottom, and later fifty acres near the Sangamon River. The land was very swampy, but Carl Schaad understood farming, and put it in good condition, fencing the fields and making many improvements. He died February 1, 1877, his widow surviving him until January 17, 1905. Their children were: John C., who is of Cass County; Mary and Minnie, who live on the homestead;

Henry A., who is of the same county; William, who is deceased; and Thomas F.

Thomas F. Schaad attended the schools of his district and the Illinois State University at Champaign, Ill. Having grown up on the farm, he was qualified to take charge of it, and since buying it has carried on grain farming and raises some stock, meeting with gratifying success.

On March 22, 1905, Mr. Schaad married Louella Taylor, born in Cass County, a daughter of William and Mary E. (Horrom) Taylor. There are no children of this marriage. Mr. Schaad belongs to Hickory Presbyterian church, of which he has been an officer since 1902, and superintendent of Sunday school since 1900. A Republican, on that ticket he was elected road clerk; has been a drainage commissioner since 1905, and has also served as township treasurer of schools, this prominence illustrating the fact that he is a man of considerable influence in his neighborhood. The Modern Woodmen of America at Chandlerville hold his membership.

SCHAEFFER, Charles A., was born in Cass County, Ill., May 24, 1855. He is the eldest son of Calvin S. and Mary Jane (Shafer) Schaeffer. His paternal grandparents were Philip and Highly (Hoover) Schaeffer, who came to Illinois from Ohio, soon after Illinois was admitted into the Union. His maternal grandparents were Christopher and Rachel (Emerich) Shafer, who were natives of Virginia. Both sets of ancestors were farmers and landowners in Cass County. The father of Charles A. Schaeffer is still living and is now eighty years old, but the mother, Mary Jane (Shafer) Schaeffer, died in 1906. The children of Calvin S. and Mary Jane Schaeffer are: Charles A.; Winters L.; William D.; Rachel A., wife of C. E. Davis; Jennie M., wife of Henry Betz, all of Cass County; and George W., of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Charles A. Schaeffer received his education in the district schools, the high school, and the State Normal School. At twenty-two years of age he began active responsible life, on his own account, as a teacher in the public schools of the county. On the thirty-first anniversary of his birth Charles A. Schaeffer received the nomination of his party for the office of county superintendent of schools of Cass County, and was chosen to the office in the ensuing election. Four years later he was re-elected by a greatly increased majority. During these eight years he made his home at Virginia, Ill. In 1890 he purchased the Virginia Enquirer, a weekly newspaper, which he later sold to F. E. Downing. In December, 1894, having purchased a half interest with Albert S. Coil in the Weekly Enterprise, he moved his family to Beardstown, where they have since made their home. Under the firm name of Coil and Schaeffer, editors and proprietors, the Weekly Enterprise was changed to a tri-weekly on March 3, 1895. In 1901 the firm added a daily which they named the Morning Enterprise. From thence the publications of the firm of Coil and Schaeffer were the Weekly Enterprise and the Morning Enterprise. On January 1, 1914, Charles A. Schaeffer purchased the interest of his partner, Albert S. Coil, in the Enterprise newspaper plant, and he and his son, Ledru G. Schaeffer, having a short time before purchased the Illinoian Star, daily and weekly, father and son consolidated the two plants, including the job departments of both, and began business under the firm name of the Schaeffer Publishing Company. The publications under the ownership and management of the co-partnership, known as the Schaeffer Publishing Company, are the Illinoian Star, daily (Independent), and the Weekly Enterprise (Democratic).

In 1882 Mr. Schaeffer was joined in marriage with Miss Nellie M. Garner, daughter of Rev. W. S. and Mrs. Nancy M. (Crews) Garner, of Oregon Precinct, Cass County. Of this union three children were born: Ledru G., Edna K. and Mary Helen. The last named died at the age of four years.

Charles A. Schaeffer, besides being a public school teacher, county superintendent of schools and newspaper owner and editor, was in 1892 admitted, after an examination before the Supreme court of the state, to practice law in the courts of Illinois. In 1896 he was elected state's attorney for Cass County and served one term. He belongs to the following named fraternal and beneficiary organizations: Masons, Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Court of Honor.

SCHALL, Edward, has made a fine record as a farmer since reaching years of maturity, at which time, 1891, he rented his first farming land and started out in the world for himself. Constant application to the task he had in hand, economical management, frugality and good judgment have won for him a measure of success that gives him recognition among the best grain raisers and milk and butter producers in Cass County. All this progress has been attained, moreover while still a comparatively young man, for, he was born as late as March 11, 1866, at Peoria, Ill., and his parents were Charles and Mary (Dechert) Schall, the father being an emigrant from Hesse, Germany, and the mother of American nationality. Charles Schall located in Cass County, Ill., in the sixties, where he began his married life, after a few years spent as a clerk in Beardstown. He was variously engaged until he ultimately bought a farm, on which he lived until January, 1913, dying then at the age of seventy-two years. He married Mary Dechert and they had the following children: Edward; Henry C., of Morgan County, Ill.; Charles H., of Cass County; Caroline (Mrs. Ed. Bierhaus), of Cass County, and Albert H., of Cass County. The mother of these children died and the second wife of Charles Schall bore him the following children: Julius, of Beardstown; Alexander and Harry of Cass County; and Edith and Irene, on the home place.

Up to the age of twenty-one years, Edward

Schall stayed at home. At that time, having received a common school education, he went to farming on rented lands, and in June, 1893, bought 120 acres, partly improved, in section 20, township 18, range 10, Cass County. On this he completed the improvements, erecting a fine house, good outbuildings, barns, etc., and building a modern, up-to-date creamery. Here he conducts a dairy farm, keeping from fourteen to sixteen cows, and making butter, and he also carries on general grain farming.

On February 23, 1893, Mr. Schall, who was educated in the district schools, was married to Annie Kruse, who was born August 12, 1867, in Cass County, Ill., a daughter of Mathias and Anna (Biehl) Kruse, the former a native of Switzerland, and the latter born in Beardstown where she attended school in youth. At an early day, Mr. Kruse came to Beardstown with his first wife, buying a farm in township 18, range 10, where the wife died. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Schall were John and Margaret Biehl, natives of Germany, who located in Cass County at an early period, and carried on farming. Mrs. Schall was the oldest child of her father, the others being: John, of Jule Station, Cass County; Henry, of Adams County, Ill.; Mathais, of Chase County, Nebr.; and David, Edward, Barbara (Mrs. Willis Davis), Jacob and Albert, all of Cass County; and Sophia and Emma, on the home place.

Mr. and Mrs. Schall have had the following children: Elmer C., Nadine N., Nita P., Clifford M. and Le Eda, all at home. Edward Schall belongs to the Lutheran church, while his wife is a Presbyterian. In politics Mr. Schall is a Democrat. He has served as a school director, and since 1912 has been a trustee of township 28, range 10, Cass County.

SCHELL, Raymond C.—Among the enterprising and successful young men whose skill and energy constitute one of the dependable elements in promoting the prosperity of the city of Beardstown, Cass County, is Raymond C. Schell, who is very popular wherever his acquaintance extends. Mr. Schell was born in Oquawka, Ill., April 7th, 1886, and is a son of Charles F. W. and Mary E. (Brooks) Schell. He grew to manhood in his native town, receiving his early mental training in the public schools. After his school days were over, Mr. Schell became active along numerous lines. He served three years as assistant postmaster of his home town, and then worked in Monmouth, Ill., one year, as clerk for the Adams Express Company, following this was employed as express messenger on the railroad running out of Beardstown. He also sold gasoline engines until 1909, when he entered the automobile business in company with W. J. Wolton, under the firm name of Wolton & Schell. This connection continued for sixteen months when Mr. Schell bought out his partner's interest, and has since, except during one year, conducted the business alone. In the year excepted a Mr. Cannon had an interest with him in the repair department. Mr. Schell has the agency of the Moline, as well as the Ford and Buick cars. He is also engaged in the auto livery business, having two livery cars for hire. After dissolving his business connection with Mr. Wolton, he went to Moline, in 1910-11, and was engaged for six months in the testing department of an auto manufactory, in order to become more efficient in the work.

Mr. Schell married Zelda A. Gray in December, 1914. Fraternally he is affiliated with the B. P. O. E., Lodge No. 1007, of Beardstown, and also the K. of P. He is prospering in all his undertakings, and has many friends, being well liked by all who have business or personal relations with him.

SCHMIDT, Johannes.—Perhaps no country of the world has contributed so many sturdy, industrious and capable men and women to the United States as Germany, for there the people are taught to work and they do well whatever lies closest at hand. As a result whenever they immigrate, they bring with them a knowledge of whatever line in which they have been trained, as well as habits of thrift that stand them in good stead in their new home.

The late Johannes Schmidt, formerly one of the prosperous farmers of Cass County, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, June 16, 1854, came to the United States when he had attained his majority, and made his way to Cass County, Ill. A few months later he went to Bloomington, Ill., where he was a truck farmer and also conducted a greenhouse, but later, on returning to Cass County, he bought sixty acres of land and conducted it until his death. While living upon this farm he improved it considerably, erecting all the buildings and putting in excellent stock.

On February 26, 1885, Mr. Schmidt was united in marriage with Mary Geiss, who was born in Cass County, a daughter of John and Matilda (Apple) Geiss, of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt became the parents of the following children: Rosa, who is Mrs. Fred Pate of Cass County; Matilda, who is Mrs. Louis Deichman of Virginia; and Henry F. and Otto, who conduct the home place for their widowed mother. The family belong to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Schmidt died July 27, 1911, after a long and useful life, and the influence of his upright character had its effect upon his neighborhood.

SCHMOLDT, A. E.—The A. E. Schmoldt Lumber & Cooperage plant was established by a Mr. Weaver in the year 1856, as a sawmill. After about twelve years the mill and grounds were bought by Herman Sielschott, Robt. G. Schmoldt and Fred Moeller, under the firm name of Sielschott, Moeller & Co. Later Mr. Moeller sold his interest to Sielschott & Schmoldt; still later Robt. G. Schmoldt bought out Herman Sielschott and soon added a retail lumber yard which he opened on the corner of Third and Jefferson streets, Beardstown; also soon after adding a wholesale ice storage plant and continuing in

this line by himself a number of years. He sold to his sons, H. M., Robt. W., and A. E., each a one-fifth interest, retaining two-fifths interest. Then was added a slack barrel cooperage factory, making slack barrel staves, hoops and heading; the style of the firm now being Schmoldt Brothers & Co. The firm continued to operate under this head until the father retired from active business, when he sold his two-fifths interest to his sons, H. M., Robt. W., and A. E. Schmoldt, who continued the business as Schmoldt Brothers, Robt. W. Schmoldt later selling his interest to H. M. and A. E. Schmoldt. The retail lumber yard in the meantime had been moved from Third and Jefferson streets to the corner of Fourth and State streets. In the spring of 1907 A. E. Schmoldt sold his interest in the retail lumber yard on Fourth street to H. M. Schmoldt and in the same year bought the H. M. Schmoldt interest in the manufacturing plant, taking over the books of Schmoldt Brothers as their successor. A. E. Schmoldt continued the manufacturing in its entirety, discontinuing the ice business, and added a retail coal yard, and retail and wholesale lumber yard, which he continues to operate.

A. E. Schmoldt's parents, Robt. G. Schmoldt and Johanna Eleonore Schmoldt, were born and married in Germany, coming to this country in 1852, and to Cass County July 5, 1853. To them were born eight sons, the first two dying in infancy. The third, H. M. Schmoldt, died June 18, 1909, at the age of fifty-two years. The fourth, August R., owns a farm adjacent to Beardstown, where he makes his home. The fifth, A. E., owns and operates the cooperage plant, coal and lumber yards, in Beardstown. The sixth, Robt. W., now lives in Los Angeles, Cal., where he is engaged in the mercantile business. The seventh, Herman J., died May 7, 1897, at the age of twenty-nine years. The eighth son died in infancy.

A. E. Schmoldt was born February 14, 1862; was married November 3, 1896, to Clara Olive Treadway, daughter of James and Rebecca Mary Treadway, of Beardstown, Ill. They have one son, Ernest James, born October 2, 1896.

SCHWEER, Frederick E.—After a career filled with active experience since his early manhood, Frederick E. Schweer is now enjoying the comfort and quietude of restful retirement in his advancing years, abundantly supplied with all the necessaries of life, and serenely conscious that the approbation of his fellowmen has crowned his faithful efforts in behalf of the public welfare. In early manhood Frederick Schweer served his country well on the field of battle during the war for the Union, and in the ensuing period of peace he has contributed his best energies, in various responsible offices, towards an efficient administration of the affairs of his city and country.

Frederick E. Schweer is of German nativity, having been born in Hanover, Germany, May 28, 1845. He is a son of John H. and Catherine (Dubelmeyer) Schweer, who came, in 1854, by way of New Orleans to Beardstown, Ill., after consuming thirteen weeks and five days on the journey. John H. Schweer died in 1886 and his wife in 1889. He was a general laborer. They were the parents of nine children, of whom Frederick E. was the youngest. He obtained a fair education by four years of study in the public schools, and remained with his father and mother until March 7, 1864, when he enlisted for the Civil war, joining the Eighteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being attached to the Western army. He was honorably discharged from the service in January, 1866, and then applied himself to farming and teaming, taking care of his parents until their death. From 1882 to 1883 he did police duty in Beardstown, and then became city marshal, holding the latter office until 1902. In November of the last named year Mr. Schweer was elected sheriff of Cass County, serving until 1906, when he was elected assessor and treasurer of the county, serving thus until 1910. Since that time he has lived in retirement, occupying a spacious and attractive residence in Beardstown.

On March 7, 1867, Mr. Schweer was united in marriage with Catherine L. German, born in Prussia, Germany, a daughter of Jacob and Louisa German, who were natives of Germany, but came to Beardstown and engaged in farming. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Schweer are: John M.; Theodore J., a physician; Emma (Mrs. C. E. Anger); Otto; Alice (Mrs. William Haire), a widow; and Roy, all of Beardstown. In all of the various capacities in which Mr. Schweer has served the public he has given thorough satisfaction to his constituents, and his reputation as a man and a citizen is deservedly high. Mr. Schweer's religious connection is with the Congregational church. In politics he is a Democrat. He is a Knight Templar Mason and belongs also to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and to McLean Post No. 97, G. A. R.

SCHWEER, Otto.—One of the old and much respected families of Cass County, the Schweers, a narrative of whose personal history may be found elsewhere in this volume, is still further represented by the subject of this sketch, a resident of Beardstown, and a son of Fred and Catherine (German) Schweer, long and favorably known in this vicinity. Otto Schweer, who is among the most energetic, intelligent and industrious of the younger members of the community, was born in Beardstown, Ill., September 23, 1874. In boyhood he attended the common schools of his neighborhood, and at an early period, learned the trade of a machinist, at which he worked from the age of sixteen years, although he lived with his parents until he was twenty-six years old.

At this time, December 21, 1900, occurred Mr. Schweer's marriage to Tillie Hendriker, who was born in Cass County, Ill., her father and mother also being natives of this county. After his marriage Mr. Schweer was engaged for a time in the laundry business, and some of his time was devoted to his trade of machinist. In

1903, he formed a connection with a stock company under the name of the Goodell Ice and Fuel Company, in which he continued active until 1909, when he went into the coal business. For a while he has been wholesale agent for the Pabst Brewing Company of Beardstown and vicinity. In all his undertakings he has met with a good measure of success, and in the various enterprises which have occupied his attention, he has made numerous friends who hold him in high regard. In his political course Mr. Schweer has uniformly acted with the Democratic party. He is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., being a Knight Templar, and is also identified with the B. P. O. E. No. 1007, and the A. O. F., all of Beardstown.

SEHY, John, manufacturer of drain tile and brick, is one of the representative manufacturers of Cass County, and his plants at Ashland are thoroughly modern in every respect, and do credit not only to his own business enterprise and ability, but to the community as well. He was born at Berlin, Ill., February 7, 1867, a son of Peter and Margaret (Stork) Sehy, who came to Sangamon County, Ill., in 1865. The father is a shoemaker by trade, and since 1881 has lived at Ashland. His brothers and sister were: Adam, Conrad, Frank and Catherine. After the birth of her two children, John and Frank, the first Mrs. Sehy died. Later Peter Sehy married Mary Reith, and they had two sons, Matthew and Steven, and two daughters, Mary E., who is Mrs. William Henn, of Morgan County, Ill.; and Catherine, who is Mrs. Henry Henn, of Cass County, Ill.

John Sehy attended the common schools of his native place and worked at various things until 1892, when he, with four others, bought out the brick manufacturing plant of J. B. Lohman. From time to time he purchased the interests of his partners and since 1902 has been sole proprietor. In 1909 he added the manufacture of drain tile, erecting a plant for that purpose, and now has a very large and flourishing business. The capacity of his brick plant is 15,000 per day, while he manufactures from 3,000 to 6,000 drain tile, according to the size. Since 1909 his plant has been operated by a 35-horse power engine and a 40-horse power boiler, and employment is given to six men. The main drying shed is 125x32 feet, and he has a second building 75x28 feet, in which are located the engine, boiler, machine shop and clay pit. The drying room has a cement floor and exhaust steam is forced into the tile which heats the shed and assists in drying the product. Mr. Sehy has two round down-draft kilns, with a capacity of 70,000, heated by a grateless furnace of the latest improved model. All equipments in his plants are the most modern in the county, and he is constantly improving them.

On February 18, 1890, Mr. Sehy married Mary Elizabeth Brazzle, born in La Salle County, a daughter of Thomas and Anna (Farrel) Brazzle, natives of Ireland, and the following children have been born to them: Charles Francis, who is of Ashland, Ill., is engineer of the tile plant; Anna Marie, who is at home; Frances Catherine, Helen May, Margaret Mary, Frank Conrad, Gertrude, Thomas Peter, John James, and Agnes Louise who died in infancy. Mr. Sehy is a member of the Catholic church. He belongs to the W. C. U. No. 24, of Ashland. In politics he is a Democrat.

SHANKLAND, Ora, editor and publisher of the Chandlerville Times, and a man who is conscientious in moulding opinion and advocating improvements and liberal reforms, was born at Chandlerville, Ill., June 20, 1881, a son of Rev. Benjamin Hartley and Elizabeth (Peek) Shankland, the former born in Nicholas County, Ky., November 23, 1843, and the latter in Menard County, Ill., November 19, 1835. The father was a Methodist minister and a farmer, and both he and his excellent wife spent their lives in doing good to others. Earnest and consistent members of the Methodist church, they worked towards its advancement, and made relieving the needy one of the chief aims of their existence. During the Civil war, the father served for six months in Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, while in political views he is a Democrat.

Ora Shankland is a graduate of the Chandlerville High school, class of 1900, and after completing his school course he learned the printing trade, which he has followed ever since, with the exception of a few months when he was a grocery clerk. On September 8, 1911, he bought the Chandlerville Times and has since issued it and conducts in conjunction with it a well equipped job printing office. He is a member of the Chandlerville Chamber of Commerce and an honorary member of the Cass County Country Life Club. Since 1907 he has belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America, and in July, 1913, he joined the Knights of Pythias. He is not only clerk and secretary of the Christian church board, which religious organization he joined January 1, 1910, but he is a member of the Sunday school orchestra. In politics he is a Democrat, and one of the leaders of his party.

On May 10, 1911, Mr. Shankland married Nellie F. McDonald, a daughter of William Edgar and Ida Mae (Johnson) McDonald, the former a painter and paper hanger. Mrs. Shankland was born at Virginia, Ill., May 7, 1893, and is a member of the Christian church and a very prominent worker in the same, with which church she united when twelve years of age. She is also a member of the Court of Honor, which she joined October 5, 1914. Mrs. Shankland also taught a very successful term of school. Mr. and Mrs. Shankland have many warm personal friends at Chandlerville, and are numbered among the social leaders of the place.

SHAW, Rev. William Bird, minister of the Congregational church at Chandlerville, Ill., and a man widely known and universally respected

for his dignified capability and profound learning, and beloved for his reasonable charitableness, was born at Beardstown, November 12, 1853, a son of John Barnwell and Mary Jane (Chandler) Shaw, the former born in Cumberland, Maine, July 22, 1823, and the latter at Scituate, R. I., May 27, 1830. John B. Shaw was an attorney-at-law, and was one of the organizers of the Cass County public school system, and the first county superintendent of schools in Cass County. On the maternal side, the Chandlers not only were early identified with Cass County, but were ever the first to aid and help school, church and social enterprises. The sites of the schoolhouse, the Congregational church and the Methodist church at Chandlerville, were given by Dr. Charles Chandler, Dr. Shaw's grandfather, as well as all parks and other public grounds. He was the most influential factor in securing the passage of the railroad through Cass County. Mrs. Shaw, the mother of Dr. Shaw, was brought from Rhode Island to what afterwards became Chandlerville, by her father, Dr. Chandler, when young, and was the first child in that neighborhood.

William Bird Shaw was graduated from Illinois College, Jacksonville, and the Union College of Law, Chicago. His boyhood was spent on a farm with his widowed mother, he having lost his father when he was five years old, and there he enjoyed life as a lover of books and of agriculture. He studied law and become an attorney, and in 1884 went to Ford County, Kas., and was one of the first settlers and lawyers of the county. It was while residing there that he determined to turn from law to the ministry, began the study of theology and was ordained at Ford, Kas., in 1889. After many years of active work in that state, he came back to Illinois, and took charge of the Congregational Church at Beardstown, in 1908. He has always been very much interested in church and educational work, and in political faith is a Progressive Republican. The Masonic order and the order of Odd Fellows hold his fraternal membership.

On March 16, 1886, Mr. Shaw was married to Mary Louise Broadwell of Jacksonville, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw have had two children: Mary Louise, who was born at Jacksonville, July 27, 1880; and Harold Bird, who was born at Downs, January 16, 1890. The family home is at Chandlerville. Dr. Charles Chandler entered and purchased the land upon which Chandlerville now stands, and it takes its name from this notable pioneer, extended mention of whom will be found in the historical part of this work.

SHOEMAKER, Martin R.—Beardstown has one of the best photographic studios in Cass County, conducted by Martin R. Shoemaker, and those patronizing it are given artistic work at reasonable prices. Mr. Shoemaker was born in Titus County, Tex., January 18, 1864, a son of William R. and Margaret Alice (Martin) Shoemaker, natives of Landstone County, S. C., and Wheeling, W. Va. He was killed in Texas during 1864, and his widow married again, and her son, Martin R., was brought up by his stepfather, William Birks, in Macon County, Ill., until he was seventeen years old, during which period he attended the schools of his district.

When he was seventeen years old he began learning the carpenter trade, but after a year was engaged in sign painting, and then became interested in photography and the enlarging of pictures, while he was in Nebraska, and he traveled about Texas and in other states, including Kansas, Iowa and South Dakota. He supplemented his practical experience with a course at Rockford, Ill., in the air-brush method of enlarging pictures. In 1889 he located in Beardstown, Ill., where he has built up an excellent trade in photographic work, the enlarging of photographs, crayon drawing, etc., and handles photographic sundries and does picture framing, and is doing a very large business.

On January 19, 1887, Mr. Shoemaker was married at Argenta, Ill., to Lena Alice Sprague, born at Randallville, Ill., a daughter of Dr. Joshua Sprague. Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker have had the following children: Leah Alice, who is at home; Carletta May, who is Mrs. Clifford Norman, resides at Beardstown; and Clarence, who died at the age of nine years and five months.

Mr. Shoemaker belongs to the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and has been an elder since 1900. He has been church historian of the Central Illinois District that comprises twenty-one counties in the central part of Illinois, and is now its president. In addition he is first counselor to "The St. Louis Quotam of Elders," comprised of three districts, Central Illinois, Southeastern Illinois and St. Louis districts, so that it can be easily seen that with business and church work his time is pretty well occupied. Believing that idleness is criminality, and that work without art is brutality, he has combined the two, "work and art" in his achievements which has enabled him to surmount many obstacles in life. In politics he is independent. Fraternally he belongs to the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America, both of Beardstown.

SIMPSON'S FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING CO.—Among the well known enterprises of Beardstown, Cass County, Ill., is the concern above named, located at No. 115 West Third street, the proprietor of which is L. L. Simpson. This business was purchased from C. E. Williamson, on September 1, 1911, by Mr. Simpson, who came from Carrollton, Ill., and it has since been under his immediate management. Formerly, the partnership in control was Huge & O'Kricke, who sold it to Huge & Williamson, and the latter subsequently bought out the former's interest on April 15, 1911. Jointly interested with Mr. Simpson in the enterprise is his mother, Mrs. Emma J. Simpson. The concern deals in all varieties of furniture, rugs, etc., and also does upholstering and picture

framing. The establishment is equipped with private parlors and a private morgue in the undertakiug department. Mr. Simpson is a licensed embalmer, and has his mother's assistance in this department, as well as that of J. H. Huge.

L. L. Simpson is a native of Carrollton, Ill., where his birth took place in the year 1888. His early educational trainiug was obtained in the public schools of that place, after which he eutered the high school, from which he was graduated with the class of 1907. He then pursued a course of undertaking and embalming under his father, E. L. Siupson, deceased, and in the Barnes School of Sanitary Science and Embalming of Chicago. His father was a member of the firm of S. E. Simpson & Company. After his death on September 22, 1910, L. L. Simpson took charge of the business until June 1, 1911, when it was disposed of, and Mr. Simpson and his mother located in Beardstown. Mrs. Emma J. Simpson is a daughter of Enoch and Margaret (Loper) Keele. She was born in Macoupin County, Ill., and her marriage took place in the same county. Mrs. Simpson is the mother of two children, Levis and Leita.

L. L. Simpson was united in marriage, on October 16, 1913, with Caroline Post, a daughter of Fayette and Minuie (Knight) Post. He is a business man of much intelligence and enterprise and has the respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends.

SINCLAIR, Harry Watson.—It requires a thorough knowledge of farming iu all its many details to be a successful agriculturalist. There are men engaged in tilling the soil in Cass Couuty who appreciate this fact and have taken a deep interest in their work and through their success are doing much to make this locality a center of agriculture. One of these men is Harry Watsou Sinclair of Virginia.

Harry W. Sinclair was born in Champaign County, Ill., July 10, 1883, a son of Johu N. aud Eliza (Stout) Sinclair. While he was still an infant, Mr. Sinclair's parents moved to Chandlerville, Cass County, and in 1888 located at Virginia, so that the lad enjoyed the advantages of excellent schools. When he was fifteen years old, he began to be self-supporting, securing work in a country store, aud in 1906 he embarked in a grocery business at Virginia, in partnership with J. C. Baily. This associatiou continued with profit to both until 1912, when Mr. Sinclair sold his interest to his partner, and moved to the farm of Marquis L. Crum in Virginia Precinct, where, during the following years, he has been engaged in general farming and stockraising, feeding the greater part of his grain. His success along these lines has been of such a nature as to mark him a man well fitted for agricultural pursuits, and he is correctly numbered among the leaders of his county.

Ou September 12, 1912, Mr. Sinclair was married by Rev. Loyd, of Virginia, Ill., to Rena Frances Crum, boru November 14, 1888, in Virginia Precinct, a daughter of Marquis L. and Frances (Stubblefield) Crum. Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair have one son, Marquis Crum, who was born July 22, 1913. Mr. Sinclair is a Presbyteriau, while his wife is a Methodist. In politics he is a Democrat, while fraternally he belongs to Masonic Lodge No. 544 of Virginia, and to the Knights of Pythias No. 551 of the same city. Mrs. Sinclair is a member of the Eastern Star.

SKILES, Lee H., president of the Goodell, Skiles Lumber Co., Inc., a director of the Petefish-Skiles Bank, of Virginia, and one of the leading men of Virginia, Ill., was born in Cass County, Ill., August 1, 1871, a son of Oswell and Ann (Conover) Skiles. After attending the public schools of Virginia, and the Illinois College, at Jacksonville, Ill., he was employed for a time in the Couover, Skiles & Mertz Bauk, of Jacksonville, a private institution, but in October, 1894, he purchased the lumber business of Stout & Wilson, of Virginia, which plant was located on the present site of the Methodist church. In the following year, he bought land and built the quarters now occupied by his firm. The rapid growth of the business demanded the infusion of more capital, and Mr. Skiles consolidated with William S. Goodell, who had a yard and works at Chandlersville and at Kilbourne, Ill. The present company was incorporated on Jauuary 1, 1909, with a capital of $30,000, with Lee H. Skiles as president; C. F. Achamire, vice president; and W. S. Goodell secretary and treasurer, the board of directors being composed of the officials. The company handles lumber, paints, hardware, wire fencing and gates of various descriptions, lime, cement and general building materials.

On November 10, 1897, Mr. Skiles was married to Edith Crum, a daughter of Marcus L. and Fannie (Stubblefield) Crum, and they have two children, namely: Heleu and Marcus Oswell, both of whom are attending the Virginia public schools. Mr. Skiles is a member of the Moderu Woodmeu of America and the Masonic fraterniity, joining both orders at Virginia. For four years or two terms, Mr. Skiles was a member of the city council of Virginia and can always be depended upon to take a public-spirited interest in local affairs.

SKILES, Louis Oswell, county clerk of Cass County, and a man of more than average business foresight, whose grasp of public matters has placed him in a position where he can use his knowledge for the good of the people, is one of the leading men of Virgiuia. He was boru in this city on September 27, 1883, a sou of O. and Eliza (Epler) Skiles, old settlers of Cass County, the former of whom was one of the pioneer bankers of this locality. He died in 1908, his wife surviving until 1912. They had three children, namely: Lee, Louis O., aud Stella, who married M. J. Alkire, but is now a widow.

After passing through the public schools of Virginia, Louis O. Skiles attended Knox College

of Galesburg, Ill., and then began his business life in the bank of Conover, Skiles & Mertz at Chandlersville, Ill., as assistant cashier. After a year in the bank, he went on a farm and carried on farming and stockraising for four years. For the next two years he discharged the duties of deputy circuit clerk of Cass County, and in 1910, was elected county clerk, and still holds that position, and in that same year, was elected vice-president of the State Board of Agriculture and is still in office. His support has come from the Democratic party, as he belongs to that political organization.

In 1905, Mr. Skiles married Gertrude Stout, a daughter of Philemon and Nellie (Walker) Stout, no issue. Mr. Skiles is a Mason, having joined the order in 1906, and has passed through the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Consistory, and also belongs to Mohammed Shrine of Peoria, and is also a member of the Elks Lodge of Beardstown. Yet in the very prime of life, Mr. Skiles has a prosperous future before him. His friends are many, his connections desirable, and those who know him best, rely upon his judgment, and are proud of his advancement in public favor.

SLIGH, J. R., county treasurer and assessor of Cass County, is one of the enterprising and reliable men of this part of the state, one whose foresight and knowledge of affairs has placed him in more than one office of importance. Mr. Sligh was born at Wooster, Ohio, April 10, 1865, a son of Archibald and Christina (Bucannon) Sligh.

J. R. Sligh grew up amid excellent home surroundings, and received the usual common school education, but from boyhood he possessed more than ordinary ability, and upon entering upon a business life, made a success of his work. For twenty years he was associated with flour milling at various places, finally locating in Cass County, and his business career in Cass County, which extended over a period of some sixteen years, proved his worth, and during that time he continued to devote himself to milling. As a man of judgment and stability he found such favor with the people that he was elected sheriff of the county in 1906, and held that office for four years. He was then elected county treasurer and assessor, and is regarded as one of the best men Cass County has had to discharge the duties of these offices.

In 1899 Mr. Sligh was married to Emma Kirchner, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Yeck) Kirchner, and they have one child, Christine, who is attending the Virginia public school. Mr. Sligh belongs to the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, and is popular in both orders. A man of uprightness of purpose, he has lived up to his ideals and has always done his full duty as he saw it.

SMITH, Earl.—The business interests of Virginia are carefully conserved by the enterprising men of the county seat, and one of them who is deserving of more than passing mention is Earl Smith, whose operations in coal place him among the successful merchants of the county. Mr. Smith was born at Jacksonville, Morgan County, Ill., February 24, 1882, a son of Joseph and Helen (Gover) Smith, the former of whom died February 28, 1906, the latter surviving and making her home at Virginia. When he was still an infant, Earl Smith was brought to Virginia, Cass County, Ill., and here he grew to maturity. After taking the public school course, Mr. Smith began to assist his father in the coal business, continuing until the father's death, when he succeeded, and has continued in this line alone ever since. He farms forty acres of land near Virginia in addition to attending to his other business. He has not married, but lives with his mother, being the fourth in order of birth of the nine children that were born to his parents.

Mr. Smith is interested in fraternal matters, belonging to the Odd Fellows, in which he has passed all the chairs, and to the Modern Woodmen of America, in which he is now venerable counsel. The Presbyterian church holds his membership. His standing in the community is exceptionally good, and he deserves the success which has been his, for he has always worked intelligently and diligently, and also has been able to spare time to take a useful interest in local affairs, although he is in no sense a politician.

SMITH, Ira A.—Like most of the counties in this section of the state, the county of Cass contains many farms that, besides their special adaptability for a high degree of cultivation, show the evidence of notable industry and thrift on the part of those well known agriculturists who own and operate the land. Among these is the fine tract near the village of Oakford, lying in section 32, township 19, range 8, which belongs to Ira A. Smith. Here, in addition to general farming, its owner is engaged in the raising of stock. He buys stock and feeds it for market, and also makes a specialty of pure-bred Jersey Duroc hogs.

Ira A. Smith is a native of Menard County, Ill., where his birth took place December 5, 1879. His father's name was Samuel M. Smith, born in Norristown, Pa., December 23, 1853. The maiden name of the mother was Sophia Jane Kirby, born in Menard County, Ill., August 26, 1858. Samuel M. Smith was a farmer by occupation, and was engaged in this work and stockraising throughout his active life, being successful in all his undertakings, and leaving, besides material possessions, the heritage of a good reputation to his son. In early life Ira A. Smith attended the country schools, and subsequently devoted his time to the operation of the home farm, which is composed of 310 acres of very desirable land, where he remained until he was twenty-one years of age. He then bought 118 acres in Menard County, which he sold and bought his present farm of 240 acres.

On November 21, 1900, Mr. Smith was united in the bonds of matrimony with Ida M. Ishmael, who was born August 31, 1883, and is a daughter of Charles M. and Lydia Alice (Lane) Ishmael. Her father was born in Cass County, Ill., September 8, 1850, and her mother, in Schuyler County, Ill., May 5, 1862. They have three children, namely: Alice Bernice, born August 22, 1901; Samuel M., born October 17, 1903; and Ira A., born April 7, 1914.

Politically Mr. Smith is a Democrat, and as such was elected school director in his township, in which capacity he served acceptably for a period of six years. His religious faith is that of the Baptist denomination. He is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M., Chandlerville Lodge No. 724; and Eastern Star, De Witt Chapter 119, R. A., of Petersburg, Ill. Mr. Smith is a very industrious man, and his pleasant disposition makes him popular among his numerous acquaintances.

SMITH, Isaac N.—In whatever sphere of life one's lot may be cast, earnest effort, directed with energy, prudence and constancy, is almost certain to have its reward in gaining a comfortable subsistence, and in the course of lengthening years, to result in the acquisition of a snug competency. Such an experience is manifest in the career of Isaac N. Smith, a well known farmer and stockraiser of Cass County, where he has been thus engaged for the past twenty-four years. The farm of Mr. Smith, consisting of 120 acres of good land, is located in section 32, township 19, range 8, and his residence address is Oakford, Ill., R. F. D. No. 1.

Isaac N. Smith was born in the county where he makes his present home, on February 6, 1848. His father, Larkin B. Smith, a contractor, millwright and farmer, was born in Washington County, Ky., January 14, 1816, and the maiden name of his mother was Nancy Jane Nash, born in Coles County, Ill., in the month of June, 1823. The father continued to live in Kentucky until 1832, when he accompanied his parents to Illinois, moving overland by wagon to Morgan County. In the course of his boyhood he became accustomed to the use of carpenter's tools under the instruction of his father, and was employed at the carpenter's trade for eleven years. At the end of this period he applied himself to farming. He had received a common school education, and remained in Morgan County until he reached the age of twenty-six. Then he moved to Logan County, Ill., and after remaining there three years, located in Cass County, where he bought the farm which he now owns and operates.

On November 21, 1869, in Morgan County, Ill., Mr. Smith was married to Sarah F. Moss, born January 14, 1840, who died August 26, 1914. She was a daughter of John B. and Elizabeth (Stanley) Moss. The parents of Mrs. Smith were natives of Tennessee, where the father was born July 16, 1816, and the mother, June 29, 1820. They were pioneers of Morgan County. Her ancestry dates back to the Stanleys of Stanleydale, Scotland. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith, namely: Jennie E., born September 5, 1870, married J. C. Lynn; Alfred T., born October 3, 1872; Lawrence B., born November 8, 1877; and Isabell, born June 18, 1882.

In religious belief Mr. Smith's father and mother were Methodists, and their son Isaac was reared in that faith, but in later years, he became a member of the Baptist church. His political affiliation has always been with the Democratic party, and he has rendered efficient and acceptable public service in the capacity of school director. He has always been very fond of reading, and his leisure hours have been largely devoted to the perusal of instructive books and periodicals. From these sources he has derived a considerable fund of useful information, and bears the reputation of being well versed in practical knowledge. He is a man of liberal disposition, and his hospitality is well known. He enjoys the respect and good will of his neighbors, and of all who have made his acquaintance.

SNYDER, John Francis.—Dr. John F. Snyder, a retired physician well known throughout the state, was born at Prairie du Pont, St. Clair County, Ill., March 22, 1830, a son of Adam Wilson and Adelaide (Perry) Snyder, the former of whom was born at Connellsville, Pa., and the latter at Prairie du Pont, Ill. The birth of Dr. Snyder occurred in the huge log building erected by the monks of St. Sulpice in 1759, at Prairie du Pont, a mile south of Cahokia. It was in this same building that his mother was born January 24, 1803, and her mother was born in the nearby village of Cahokia in 1784. At the time of their son's birth, Dr. Snyder's parents resided on their "Square Mound" farm, five miles south of Cahokia, from whence they moved to Belleville in the spring of 1833. Mrs. Snyder was of French ancestry, being the granddaughter of Capt. John Francis Saucier, the architect of Fort Chartres. His father, a son of Adam Snyder, a German soldier of the Revolution, was born October 6, 1799. In 1817 he came, penniless and afoot, to Cahokia, and in 1820 married Miss Perry. Although he possessed but limited educational advantages, he studied law, was admitted to the bar, and became a man of distinction in Illinois. During the Black Hawk war he served as a captain, was repeatedly elected to the state senate, was sent to congress, and at the time of his death, May 14, 1842, he was the candidate of the Democratic party for Governor of Illinois.

Dr. Snyder was educated at the subscription schools of Belleville, McKendree College, and the St. Louis (Mo.) University. During his boyhood he was fond of his books and a close observer of nature and natural history, and early began collecting fossils, minerals, archaeological relics, etc. During the winter of 1849-50 he was a student at the McDowell Medical College at St. Louis, and the following summer he crossed the plains to California, visiting the Sandwich

Islands in 1852, and returning home that year by way of the Isthmus of Panama, Havana, and New York, arrived at Philadelphia in time to attend the medical session of 1852-3, graduating in medicine in the spring of 1853.

For a short period thereafter, Dr. Snyder was in the government medical service in the western territories; and he went over the old Santa Fe trail to Taos and Albuquerque in New Mexico; but resigned and located in the practice of medicine at Bolivar, Polk County, Mo. He abandoned the profession of medicine and commenced the practice of law there in the fall of 1859. In June, 1861, Dr. Snyder joined Gen. Sterling Price with a battalion of mounted men. After the battle of Wilson Creek, his term of service having expired, he was appointed ordnance officer of the Sixth Division, and was in the battles of Lexington, Pea Ridge, Helena, Corinth, Iuka, and Baldwin, as a Confederate officer. Although he had no inclination or taste whatever for public life, he was elected a member of the Thirty-first Illinois legislature; but at the expiration of his term, he retired from further participation in party politics, and attended strictly to the duties of his medical practice, which he resumed after the war. And though always a Democrat, he was long ago convinced that unswerving allegiance to party platforms and servile adulation of party leaders are not the paramount objects of existence. It is but justice to Dr. Snyder to state that although he was reared in the institution of slavery (French "indentured" slaves), served in the Confederate army, and was himself a slaveholder on a small scale, he always abhorred slavery, never defending it excepting upon the meagre ground of expediency.

On September 27, 1854, Dr. Snyder was married at Bolivar, Polk County, Mo., to Miss Annie E. Sanders, who was born at Jacksonville, Ill., January 21, 1837, a daughter of Landon N. and Eliza A. (Houston) Sanders natives of Lexington, Ky. One son and three daughters have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Snyder. He was never a member of any secret society, but was one of the founders of the Illinois State Historical Society, and of its Journal, serving as the first vice-president of the society, was then its president, and he has been a frequent contributor to its transactions. From boyhood he has been a devoted student of history, particularly that of his native state, Illinois, and also an amateur delver in the natural sciences. He was elected a member of the St. Louis Academy of Sciences, and of the Illinois Academy of Sciences, and for years was a correspondent of the Smithsonian Institution. He is well versed in the science of geology, and is a recognized authority on American archaeology.

Dr. Snyder is not a member of any church, or a believer in the existence of the supernatural, but endorses what he holds to be the rational philosophy of Hume, Spencer, Huxley, and Hegel. He has never used tobacco in any form, and is a total abstainer from the use of all liquors. With a sufficient competency, a pleasant home in the city of Virginia, and an ample library, he is passing the evening of a long and very active life in the enjoyment of good health and the respect of his fellow citizens.

SOULE, Charles E., M. D., physician and business man of Beardstown, whose prestige extends all over the county, has made a success of whatever he has attempted for he possesses just those qualities which make for individual advancement, and the consequent improvement of his community. He was born in Racine County, Wis., June 11, 1863, a son of Elvirus and Mary Jane (Thomas) Soule. The father was born in New York state in 1830, and the mother in Wales. They were married at Milwaukee, Wis., and until 1880, were farming people of Racine County, but in that year moved to Walworth County. Later they returned to Racine County, and there he died November 14, 1898, but the mother survives, and makes her home in Racine County.

Charles E. Soule attended the public schools of his native county, and Rochester Seminary, and taught school for two years, beginning when twenty-one years old. In the meanwhile he began the study of medicine, and entered the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Chicago, from which he was graduated in the class of 1889. Immediately thereafter he began the practice of medicine at Mt. Vernon, Wis., remaining there until in June, 1892, when he took up some post graduate work until February of the following year. He then located at Sheridan, Ill., and remained there until 1902, when he went to Byron, Ill. Two years later he left there for Beardstown, where he has since remained. In 1912 he entered into the manufacture of cement posts, with Curtis Logsdon, under the firm name of the Beardstown Cement Tile and Post Company, and this concern owns its own boats that pump the gravel from the river bottom, as well as large barges for carrying it to the plant.

On January 26, 1885, Dr. Soule was married in Waukesha County, Wis., to Mary Hollister, and she bore him two children, namely: Enla, who is Mrs. Milton Schute, of Beardstown; and Edgar M., of Beardstown. On September 27, 1906, he was married (second) to Nellie C. Spaulding, who is a native of Ogle County, Ill., and a daughter of Simeon S. and Elizabeth (Ellis) Spaulding, a cousin of Albert E. Spaulding of Chicago, the well known maker of sporting goods. Dr. Soule belongs to the Masonic order, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Court of Honor, and the K. L. of H. A Republican in politics, he was elected on that ticket a member of the board of education, and is a man of wide interests and decided ability.

SOWERS, Jesse J.—The successful supervision of an extensive manufacturing establishment requires peculiar qualities in the person upon whom the responsibility of such management is imposed. As a preliminary qualification, he must have mastered the valuation of the various

qualities of the new material involved and have been trained, through patient and diligent effort, to understand the details of the various processes of manufacturing through which the goods pass in their development from the crude stage. He must have, moreover, a certain faculty of penetration of the characteristics of applicants for employment, and finally, an amount of business knowledge that gives him some insight into the financial problems of the undertaking in hand. That Jesse J. Sowers is justly credited with the possession of these elements of fitness is manifest in the results that have attended his conduct of the business known as the Elk Pearl Button Co., of Beardstown, Cass County.

This is one of the most notable and successful industrial enterprises of Cass County, and is owned by Harvey Chalmers & Sons, of Amsterdam, New York. The Elk Pearl Button Company works are located near the B. & O. Railroad station, and cover seven lots, 62x100 feet each, in dimensions. The manufacture is carried on in a building two stories in height, and in it are employed at present 65 persons who turn out from 6,000 to 10,000 gross of unfinished buttons per week. Such a factory with such an output constitutes one of the liveliest industrial centers of this thriving city. The business is fortunate in being under the direction of Jesse J. Sowers who is in every respect competent for the task.

Mr. Sowers is a native of Adams County, Ohio, where his birth took place August 2, 1885. He is a son of James and Miriam (Shields) Sowers, and grew to manhood in his native place, receiving his mental training in the public schools. He afterwards learned the button business of G. B. Anthony, and then, in 1911, came to Illinois for the purpose of assuming charge of the concern which he has since so well managed. Mr. Sowers is a young man of much enterprise, of sound judgment and honorable character, and in him his employers have a man in whom they can repose implicit confidence. He is identified with the I. O. O. F., lodge and encampment, and the I. O. R. M., in which he has passed all the chairs.

Mr. Sowers was married May 23, 1914, to Ruth (Brown) Draper, of Virginia, Ill., daughter of Frank and Jane Brown, natives of Maine and of Cass County.

SPRINGER, L. D., who is clerk of the Circuit Court of Cass County, has been the representative of the Democratic ticket in the office since 1908, when he was first elected. His administration of the affairs of his office have been of such a character as to win for him the approval and support of the public generally, and he is admittedly the right man in the right place. Mr. Springer was born in Cass County, Ill., July 27, 1870, a son of J. S. and Emily (Johnson) Springer.

After passing through the common schools of his native county, he attended the high school, and then the Valparaiso University of Indiana, being graduated therefrom in 1910. Having prepared himself for a scholastic life, Mr. Springer began teaching at the school near his father's homestead which bears the family name, and then was an instructor in the eighth grade in the public school at Virginia for two years. He was also a teacher at Bluff Springs, and then for one year was principal of the Arenzville High school. Elected first to office by the Democrats, he was again the nominee of that party and was elected to succeed himself.

In 1909 Mr. Springer was married to Nellie Yaple, a daughter of J. W. Yaple. Mr. and Mrs. Springer have one child, John W., who was born September 26, 1911. Fraternally, Mr. Springer is a Mason and a member of the Eastern Star, and belongs also to the Knights of Pythias, Elks and Red Men. His association with these orders is mutually pleasant, and he is recognized as one of the popular men of Virginia and Cass County.

SPRINKLE, Charles J., whose success as a farmer and stockraiser speaks well for his ability and the fertility and value of his farm, resides on section 6, township 18, range 8. He was born in Cass County, July 28, 1868, a son of George and Alvina (Hostick) Sprinkle, the former born in Menard County, Ill., February 2, 1844, and the latter in Germany in 1846. The father moved from Menard to Cass County, but in a few years returned to Menard County, where he is now living retired at Petersburg. Charles J. Sprinkle was educated in the country schools, and learned farming in all its details. He began farming on his own account when he attained to manhood's estate, and in 1902 returned to Cass County, where he took charge of his father's farming property. So successful was he that he earned the money to buy his 240-acre farm, and he has also improved it to a considerable extent, now having a property of which any man might well feel proud.

On February 13, 1890, Mr. Sprinkle was married to Anna Malinda Hickey, born December 27, 1868, a member of one of the oldest families in Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Sprinkle have one son, Ernest Ernway, who was born August 21, 1892, in Menard County, and is living with his parents. He was married to Emma E. Cooper, September 10, 1913, who was born September 27, 1891. Mr. Sprinkle has served as road commissioner for six years, as school director for twelve years, and has also been judge of election upon many occasions. He belongs to Chandlerville Lodge No. 724, A. F. & A. M. In religious faith the family are Baptists. Genial by nature, Mr. Sprinkle is a man who makes and retains friends and he stands very well in every way among his neighbors.

STEUERNAGEL, Werner, president of the First State Bank of Beardstown, and a man of unusual ability as a financier, through whose sound judgment and conservative methods the people of Cass County have an able administra-

tor, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, December 10, 1837, a son of Conrad and Catherine Ann (Koehler) Steuernagel. The mother dying when Werner was a child, the father married a second time, and with his new wife and his only child left Germany for the United States. After their arrival here, the party located at Pittsburg, in 1854, moving from there to Wheeling, W. Va., where the father died in 1875. Although he had been a farmer in his native land, he lived in retirement after coming to America. His second wife also passed away at Wheeling, in 1891, having borne him the following children: Elizabeth, who is Mrs. Jacob Efler of Marietta, Ohio, died in Wheeling, W. Va.; John, who died at Belleville, Ill.; George, who died in Newport, Ky.; Jacob, who is of Wheeling, W. Va.; Mary, who is Mrs. Henry Mason, of Wheeling; and Henry, who is deceased.

When he was seventeen years old, Werner Steuernagel engaged as cabin boy and cook on packet boats plying on the Ohio, Illinois and Mississippi rivers, and at the age of twenty years, he located at Jacksonville, Ill., where he acted as cook in hotels and restaurants. The year 1862 found him at Beardstown, and having saved some money, he opened a grocery and conducted it very successfully until 1902, when he retired, selling his business. He was one of the organizers of the First State Bank of Beardstown, and has been its president since about 1908, and has been instrumental in its growth and development.

On September 18, 1859, he married at Jacksonville, Margaret Kelly, a daughter of Michael and Bridget (Comisky) Kelly. Mrs. Steuernagel was born in Ireland, but was brought to the United States by her parents at the age of five years. They located at New York and she came to Jacksonville, Ill., when she was seventeen years of age. The death of this lady occurred in April, 1907. Mr. Steuernagel married (second) July 16, 1913, Catherine Kinney, who was born April 7, 1857, in Cass County, a daughter of John and Isabelle (McKillips) Kinney, natives of County Antrim, Ireland. Mr. Steuernagel is a member of the German Catholic church. In politics he is a Democrat and has served as alderman of his ward, giving faithful service in that office, as he has done in other relations of life. Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus at Beardstown.

STIELER, John.—The demand for first-class foodstuffs has grown with the increasing knowledge on the part of the general public as to the value of wholesome eating, and the business of supplying the needs of the people of Virginia and the adjacent territory, is consequently an important one. One of the men who has devoted his efforts for a number of years towards meeting the demand of the public in this and kindred directions, is John Stieler, of Virginia, who was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, January 8, 1869, a son of William and Julia Ann Stieler, parents of three children: William, Katie and John.

When he was sixteen years old, John Stieler left his native land, where he had been educated in its public schools, for America, and located first at Kansas City, Mo., where he attended a business college to gain a knowledge of commercial methods. Having learned to be a cook in his native land, he followed this calling while gaining added knowledge, and so continued for ten years. Taking advantage of an opening at Deep Water, Mo., he conducted a bakery and restaurant for six years, when he sold, and went to Springfield, Ill., where he was in a bakery business until 1898, then selling, he came to Virginia, and opened a bakery and restaurant here. For the next fourteen years he was thus successfully engaged, but once more sold and in partnership with Jacob Davis, embarked in a grocery business. Two months later Mr. Stieler bought out his partner, and has since continued alone.

On April 25, 1891, Mr. Stieler married Bertha Kemmler, born February 5, 1868, at Wurttemburg, Germany. She came to the United States in 1887. She is a daughter of Gottlieb and Kathrina (Wagner) Kemmler. Mr. and Mrs. Kemmler had nine children: Henry, Marie, Katherine, Martin, Matilda, Ernestine, Louisa, Carl and Mrs. Stieler, and of these Carl, Ernestine and Mrs. Stieler are the only ones in the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Stieler have had seven children, namely: Lillian, born November 16, 1892, who is Mrs. Harry Maxwell, of Astoria, Ill., and they have one daughter, Dorothy E., born May 23, 1912; Carl, born Feb. 21, 1894; Louisa, who was born October 13, 1895, died at the age of seventeen years, July 19, 1913; Emil, born March 21, 1897; Otto, born June 4, 1899; Grace, born August 19, 1901; and Freda, born October 4, 1903. Mr. Stieler belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias, of which he is vice chancellor, and the Modern Woodmen, and has passed the chairs in the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen, and represented them in the Grand Lodge. Mrs. Stieler is a member of the Rebekahs, the W. C. T. U., and the Woman's Club. The Presbyterian church holds their membership. At present he is a member of the city council and of the school board and is a public-spirited man whose interest is centered in his home community. Politically he is a Republican. He is a director in the Virginia Building and Loan Association, and is treasurer of the Commercial Club. He owns a fine residence in Virginia.

STOUT, Philemon.—Among the oldest families of which the pages of this volume bear testimony, who still survive to honor the community with their presence in Virginia, Cass County, Ill., one of the most prominent is that of Stout and a representative is Philemon Stout. He is a son of Philemon and Tacy (Phillips) Stout the former of whom was born near Trenton, N. J., in 1804. When about thirteen years old he was taken from New Jersey to Ohio, where he lived

about twenty-seven years. In the year 1831 he came by wagon to Illinois and settled in Morgan County, and was accompanied by his wife and three children, Elias, Margaret and Jonathan. After living some time in Morgan County, he settled in Macoupin County, whence, three years later, he moved to Waverly, Morgan County. In 1850 he settled in Cass County, Ill., buying 200 acres of land at $15 per acre. Subsequently he sold this for $80 per acre, and it is now valued at $200 per acre. Retiring from active pursuits in 1877 he moved to the city of Virginia, Ill., and lived here until his death, October 28, 1891, his wife who was born in 1807, having passed away June 8, 1880. The remains of both lie in the Virginia cemetery. There were nine children: Elias, deceased; Margaret (Mrs. Ambrose Buraker) of Memphis, Mo.; Jonathan, deceased; William, deceased; Ann Eliza, (Mrs. J. N. Sinclair), of Virginia; Sarah J., (Mrs. Henry Bevis), of Urbana, Ill.; Philemon; Emeline (Mrs. John W. Turner), of North Dakota; and Mary Frances, deceased. The father was twice married, first to Tacy Phillips, a daughter of William Phillips, and second to Barbara Stith. He was an old time Baptist and officiated for many years as a deacon and took great interest in church work.

Philemon Stout, Jr., was born March 5, 1840, in Morgan County, Ill., twelve miles northeast of Jacksonville, and received some book instruction in the district schools. He was reared on the farm and lived with his father until the time of his marriage. While living at home he taught school two terms in his home district. In his younger days he herded cattle on the prairies in pioneer times, and knows the meaning of some of the privations incurred by the early settlers. After leaving the home farm in 1875, Mr. Stout located in Virginia and engaged in the lumber business with P. H. Bailey. They started a lumber yard, afterwards buying out two other dealers, and several years later sold out. Subsequently Mr. Stout went into partnership with Charles Wilson. This continued eleven years and then the concern was sold to Lee H. Skiles. Since 1894 Mr. Stout has been living in retirement. He has financial interests in the Petefish-Skiles & Co. Bank, of Virginia, Ill., and is also one of the directors.

Mr. Stout was married, September 27, 1871, at Girard, Ill., to Miss Ella Walker, a daughter of Richard Spencer and Mary Ann (Wood) Walker. She was born in Greene County, Ill., near Carrollton, May 12, 1847, and came to Cass County with her parents. The Walkers located southeast of the town of Virginia, on what is now known as the Black farm, and this farm was sold to Mr. Black by Mr. Walker, who was an intimate friend of Abraham Lincoln. While living in Morgan County, now a part of Cass County, Mr. Walker was elected to the state legislature, and served two terms. He served in the Black Hawk war as a captain, and Mrs. Stout has two silver spoons made from the mountings from her father's sword carried in that war. By his first wife, Lucinda Hunter, to whom he was married in Kentucky, and afterward settled in Illinois, he became the father of Napoleon, Marcella, Lucy and Elmira. He was born May 22, 1801, in Kentucky, and died August 20, 1885. His second wife was Mary Ann Wood, to whom he was united January 16, 1845. She was a daughter of Lewis and Lydia (Marsh) Wood, the latter a native of Vermont. Seven children blessed their union: Ella (Mrs. Philemon Stout); James H., born March 8, 1851, of Palmyra, Mo.; Fannie, born January 20, 1853 (Mrs. F. L. Thompson), of Los Angeles, Cal.; Lavina L., born August 20, 1855 (Mrs. Edward Burnett), who lives in Girard, and three who died in infancy. The mother of Mrs. Stout was born January 1, 1816, and passed away March 10, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Philemon Stout had two children: Gertrude (Mrs. L. O. Skiles), born June 8, 1873, wife of the county clerk of Cass County; and Richard Lee, born September 21, 1877, died January 21, 1879.

Mr. Stout is identified with the A. F. & A. M., having been initiated in the Cass County courthouse when the corner stone of the high school was laid. He is also affiliated with the I. O. O. F., and has passed the chairs. For a number of years he has been school trustee of township 17, range 10. Within his recollection, land was purchasable near Ashland for twenty-five cents per acre, which is now held at $200. Mrs. Stout is a member of the Christian church and is highly respected by all who know her, as is her worthy husband.

STOWELL, Leslie Rockwell, one of the representative stockraisers and cattle feeders of Cass County, whose work as an agriculturalist has won him well deserved praise, is operating his father's farm of 500 acres on section 16, township 18, range 8. He was born in Cass County, May 10, 1885, a son of Rockwell V. and Nancy (Struble) Stowell, the former born at Richfield Springs, N. Y., in 1849, and the latter in Morgan County, Ill., in 1849. Rockwell V. Stowell came to Cass County when only five years old with his parents, and in 1910 moved to Petersburg, Ill., turning his 500-acre farm over to his son. For many years he had been one of the leading farmers and stockraisers of the county. This farm was the one which belonged to Mrs. Stowell's parents, and when her father died, Mr. Stowell bought out the other heirs and developed it into the fine property it now is.

Leslie R. Stowell began studying in the country schools, later taking up eighth grade work, and then entered Whipple Academy at Jacksonville, Ill., from whence he went to the State University at Urbana for one year. He has spent his subsequent life in farming and feeding and raising stock, and is developing into an expert in these several lines.

On October 16, 1912, Mr. Stowell was married at Indianapolis, Ind., to Margaret V. Flatt, born in Macoupin County, Ill., July 22, 1891. They have one daughter, Marjorie E., born June 17, 1914. Mr. Stowell is a Republican, but

has never entered public life, confining his political work to casting his vote for the candidates of his party. The Methodist church of Newmanville, Ill., holds his membership and benefits by his generosity. A man of strong convictions, Mr. Stowell is not backward in living up to what he believes is right, and is not tolerant of wrong doing or laxity of thought or action, so that his influence for good is strong in his neighborhood. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Chandlerville.

STRENTER, Albert Frank, M. D.—The Cass County Medical Association numbers some of the most efficient physicians and surgeons among its members of any similar society in the state. One of them, who stands very high with his associates and in public esteem, is Dr. Albert Frank Strenter of Arenzville. He was born near Meredosia, Ill., in February, 1875, a son of Henry and Catherine (Rieman) Strenter, natives of Hanover, Germany, and of Meredosia, Ill. The father came to Morgan County, Ill., from Germany, in boyhood. He became an engineer of a gristmill, and so continued for a number of years. Subsequently he married the widow of John Rison, and they had two sons, Frank and John, both of Meredosia, Ill. Soon after his marriage, the father moved to a farm owned by his wife, and there she died. Later he married Catherine Rieman, and they had the following family: Minnie, who is Mrs. John Theovald, of Jacksonville, Ill.; Anna, Mrs. John Bauchamp, of Meredosia, Ill.; Emma, who is the widow of George Beauchamp, of Arenzville, Ill.; Edward, who is of Morgan County, Ill.; Albert, Frank, and William of Galveston, Tex. Mrs. Strenter died December 3, 1911. In 1897 Mr. Strenter retired, and moved to Jacksonville where he now lives.

Albert Frank Strenter was educated in the public and high schools and the Illinois College. Deciding upon entering the medical profession, he matriculated in the medical department of the Northwestern University, Chicago, and was graduated therefrom in the spring of 1906. In the meanwhile, however, the young man had had considerable business experience. He had spent his boyhood on his father's farm, and when eighteen years old bought a one-third interest in a sawmill, thresher and clover huller, in partnership with J. Risor & Co., and had charge of the outfit for two years. He then sold and bought a half interest in a general store at Meredosia, the firm name being Beauchan & Strenter. After a year, he sold to his partner, and with C. M. Skinner put in the first electric light plant. Six months thereafter, he took a trip of a year through some of the western states, and after returning to his father's farm, conducted that property of 320 acres for two years. It was then that he resumed his studies, attending the high school and Whipple Academy, before going to the Illinois College. After his graduation from medical college, he secured an appointment with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at Lake City, Iowa. After a year he moved to Arenzville and in June, 1907, opened an office at Arenzville where he has developed one of the largest practices in this part of the state. Professionally he belongs to the Cass County Medical Society, the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

In July, 1906, Dr. Strenter married Ida M. James, born at Meredosia, Ill., a daughter of George and Melvina (McClaine) James, natives of Cass County who live at Meredosia. Mrs. Strenter is a member of the Methodist church. In politics Dr. Strenter is a Republican.

STRIBLING, Henry C.—Though Cass County soil is admirably adapted for agricultural purposes, had it not been for the efforts and persistence of its farmers, the lands would never have been brought to their present high state of cultivation, consequently much credit must be given to those who have been industrious. Henry C. Stribling, a prosperous farmer of township 17, range 8, was born in Cass County, July 16, 1852, a son of Isaac Milton and Margaret A. (Beggs) Stribling, natives of Kentucky. The father came with his parents to what is now Cass County when about nine years old, in 1830, his father being Benjamin Stribling. Isaac Milton Stribling entered land just west of Virginia, which was then almost entirely covered with timber, and later became the owner of a large amount. The mother of Henry C. Stribling died on this homestead in 1857, and the father married (second) Mariah Carr, born in Cass County, who outlived him, dying in 1907, he passing away in April, 1898. By his first marriage, the father had the following children: Johanna, deceased, who married William Hitchcock; J. T., who died at Ashland in 1911; Kate, who is Mrs. Bowles, of Palmyra, Mo.; Henry C.; Louisa, who is Mrs. John Virgin, of Virginia, Ill. By his second marriage the father had a family as follows: Emma, deceased, who was Mrs. Louis Savage, of Cass County; Carrie, who is Mrs. Louis Petefish, of Springfield, Ill.; Helen, who is Mrs. Luther Conover, of Chicago, Ill.; William, who is of Virginia, Ill.; Harriet, who is Mrs. Dr. Tutten, of El Paso, Tex.; Frank Milton, who is at Lee's Summit, Mo.; George, who is deceased; Lizzie, who died in childhood; and Howard, who is of Washington, Ill.

Henry C. Stribling passed his boyhood upon the farm, and attended the schools of his district. In 1875 he bought a farm of 200 acres in township 17, range 8, Cass County, which had been already improved, by James Short, its owner, a very early settler of this locality. Since then Mr. Stribling has made many improvements, and has carried on general farming and stockraising, being an extensive feeder of horses, cattle and hogs.

In October, 1882, Mr. Stribling married Miss Maggie B. Newman of Ashland, Ill., a daughter of Jesse and Esther Newman of Cass County. The following children were born of this marriage, all of whom died in infancy: Jessie Eliz-

abeth, born July 1, 1884; I. M., born October 15, 1887; Louise, born February 11, 1890, and Maggie Bernice, born January 11, 1892. Mrs. Stribling died January 16, 1892. Mr. Stribling married (second) December 19, 1894, Miss Edna V. Middour, who was born April 22, 1872, at Ashland, a daughter of David and Serena (Eliel) Middour, natives of Pennsylvania and Maryland respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Stribling have two children: William Clinton, who was born October 11, 1895; and Glenn, who was born February 13, 1897, both of whom are at home. Mr. Stribling has served as a school director since 1884, being elected on the Republican ticket.

STRIBLING, William B.—Until a recent period the gentleman whose name appears above was extensively engaged in farming and stockraising in the vicinity of Virginia, Cass County, Ill., and also raising many fine blooded horses, but is now living in retirement. He is a native of the county in which he makes his home, where he was born December 13, 1865, and is a son of Isaac M. and Maria (Carr) Stribling. The paternal grandparents, Benjamin and Millie (Horn) Stribling, born about 1797, were natives of old Virginia, where they were married.

Isaac M. Stribling was born in Logan County, Kentucky, January 13, 1821. When nine years old his father brought him to Morgan, now Cass County, Ill., buying land and becoming a farmer. He moved near the town of Virginia and developed into one of the most extensive land owners in western Illinois, having, when he died, the title to about 3,000 acres in Cass County. He passed away April 13, 1898, his widow following him to the grave January 8, 1909. He was twice married, his first wife being Margaret Beggs. She was a daughter of Captain Charles and Mary (Ruddell) Beggs, and was born in Clarke County, Ind., December 23, 1821, and died December 26, 1856. This union resulted in five children. The second wife was Maria Carr, and nine children were the issue of their union. Emma D., deceased, who was the wife of Louis Savage, of Ashland, Ill.; Carrie L. (Mrs. L. A. Petefish), now of Springfield, Ill.; Helen (Mrs. L. W. Conover), of Chicago; William B.; Harriet (Mrs. T. H. Tuten) of El Paso, Tex.; Frank M., of Lees Summit, Mo.; George G. and Lizzie, deceased; and Howard H., of Spokane, Wash.

In early youth William B. Stribling received training in the public schools and then applied himself to farming. On March 7, 1888, he was married to Roberta Gertrude Hall, a daughter of Robert and Ann (Dupuy) McClure, the latter being a native of Kentucky and the former being the first white child born in the town of Virginia. After his marriage Mr. Stribling moved to a farm of 200 acres lying south of the town, to which, during the following year, he added 200 acres more, engaging extensively in the raising and shipping of stock. In 1900 he established his home in Virginia, from which point he superintended his farm work until 1909. Then he sold the land, and has since lived in retirement. He is a well known horse fancier, and has devoted much time to raising fine blooded stock. Until the time of his marriage, he traveled extensively with his horses. The names of his children are: Reine B. (Mrs. Dr. D. A. Yowell), of Virginia, Ill., and Robert Milton, at home.

Politically, William B. Stribling has always supported the Republican party, while his wife, who attended Knox College, Galesburg, favors Democratic principles. Fraternally, Mr. Stribling is affiliated with the B. P. O. E. No. 3271 Jacksonville; L. O. M. No. 857, Beardstown, and the K. of P. of Virginia. Mrs. Stribling is a member of the Royal Neighbors.

The Carr family, to which the mother of Mr. Stribling belonged, were among the early settlers of Cass County, where they became extensive farmers and influential people.

SUTTON, Benjamin R.—For nearly a century the same family name has been associated with the ownership of some of the most valuable farming properties in western Illinois, and several of these properties are located in the county of Cass. Among them is the extensive and highly productive farm belonging to Benjamin R. Sutton, which is mainly situated in section 19, township 19, range 8. Here its owner, besides conducting general farming operations, devotes a good part of his attention to the raising of stock, making this his home.

Benjamin R. Sutton was born in Cass County, Ill., March 24, 1857, on the farm which is his present home. His father was Nathan Sutton, a native of New Jersey, where he was born January 22, 1819. The maiden name of the mother was Elizabeth Ann Lemar, and her birth took place in the state of Indiana, on September 8, 1822. The father was a farmer by occupation. At the age of twelve years the son accompanied his parents to Michigan, near Ann Arbor, where the family remained a short time, moving then to Illinois and settling in Cass County. Benjamin received a good district school education in his neighborhood during his youthful days and spent his leisure time in rendering assistance on the home farm. Since attaining the age of maturity, he has carried on the farm work along the original lines, bestowing much care on the stock feature of the enterprise. All his undertakings have been crowned with success, and he ranks as one of the foremost farmers of western Illinois.

The marriage of Benjamin R. Sutton took place January 6, 1881, to Jennie Morgan, who was born October 27, 1856. Mrs. Sutton is a daughter of William and Elizabeth Morgan, old residents of Cass County. They have had three children: Estella, who is now deceased, was Mrs. Leeper; William Ernest; and Charrey E., who became the wife of Daniel Kridbaum. In religious belief Mr. Sutton and family are adherents of the Baptist faith. Politically, he is in accord with the principles of the Republican party, and by it elected has filled the

office of school director, and served in the capacity of commissioner of two drainage districts. In the matter of fraternal orders, Mr. Sutton has been affiliated with the A. F. & A. M. for about thirty years, and is a member of Chandlerville Lodge, No. 724. He is a very popular citizen, a man of genial temperament and amiable disposition, always ready to assist any one who is in need, and his charities though undemonstrative, have been numerous and constant.

TAAPKEN, John D., who is one of the best known and most industrious and thrifty of the farmers and stock raisers of Cass County, Ill., lives in the vicinity of Tallula, his farm being situated in section 28, township 18, range 8, and consists of 162 acres of very productive land. Mr. Taapken was born in Hanover, Germany, January 20, 1850. His father, John F. Taapken, born in the same province, was by trade a shoemaker, and there married John D. Taapken's mother, whose maiden name was Mary Boalster, a native of the same place. On one occasion, while the father was busy at the work of his trade, he found he had exhausted his supply of a certain kind of leather. Starting out to secure an additional quantity, he became bewildered in a blinding snowstorm, and met with a fatal accident. His death left his widow with the sole care of several small children. In 1870, the mother with her family started for the United States, taking passage on a sailing vessel, which consumed forty-eight days on the trip across the ocean. They finally reached Menard County, Ill., where she settled down and lived for nine years. John D. Taapken and his brother rented land, on which they carried on farming, but ultimately, the former purchased the farm he now lives on in Cass County, which he cleared and improved. Mr. Taapken received his education in the country schools, using what spare time he could for that purpose, and then applied himself to farming.

On March 14, 1884, in Menard County, Ill., Mr. Taapken was united in marriage with Mary Hansill, a native of that county, and they have eight children, namely: John H., Frank, Henry J., Harry, Powell, Mary H., Anna, Julia and Deeicks.

Mr. Taapken is a very hard working man. Besides grain farming, he is a breeder and raiser of shorthorn cattle and Poland-China hogs; but, whatever be his cares or perplexities in the course of work, he is almost always good-natured and sociable. His religious connection is with the Lutheran church, of Petersburg, Ill., and he has served the public as school director for three years. He is well liked by all, and is considered a good farmer and a good citizen.

TAYLOR, Angus.—Of the seven children that resulted from the union of William Taylor and Mary E. Horrom, former old residents of Cass County, Ill., all the sons followed their father's lead and became prominent and prosperous agriculturists, known throughout the country for their intelligence, enterprise and culture, and ranking among the foremost members of the community. Sketches of Robert A. and John H. Taylor, brothers of Angus Taylor, both of whom carry on extensive farming operations in the same vicinity, may be found in this volume, and each illustrates the family record which their father's ability and energy initiated in earlier times. The gentleman to whom the present writing pertains well maintains the high credit shown in the personal narratives of those mentioned.

Angus Taylor was born October 5, 1872, in Cass County, Ill., one mile east of Chandlerville. His father was of Scotch nativity, while his mother was born in Cass County, in Hickory Precinct, on the Sangamon River bottom. In the spring of 1877, Angus moved with his parents to the Horrom farm in that vicinity. In early youth he attended the district schools in his neighborhood, and was a pupil in a Lincoln business college, also taking a course in Lincoln University, and afterwards resuming the work of the farm. The name of Mr. Taylor's place is the "Valley View Farm." It comprises 300 acres, all on the river bottom, except eighty acres, which is on the bluff and used for pasturage. After his marriage Mr. Taylor settled on a farm belonging to his father, on the Sangamon River bottom, in township 18, range 10. He now does general grain farming and raises Percheron horses, Aberdeen cattle, Poland-China hogs and Plymouth Rock chickens. In the summer of 1910 he built a fine stucco house, which is entirely modern, having electric lights, furnace heat, hot and cold water, etc.

On August 24, 1897, Mr. Taylor was married to Emily Treadway, born in Monroe Precinct, Cass County, Ill., a daughter of Franklin M. and Ellen Eliza (Pratt) Treadway, the former born in Monroe Precinct, and the latter in Virginia. The grandparents of Mrs. Taylor were Amos and Elizabeth (Miller) Treadway, of Virginia; and John Wilkes and Emily (Savage) Pratt, the former born in Maryland, and the latter in the state of New York. Grandfather Pratt was the first county clerk of Cass County. Grandmother Pratt was a daughter of John Savage, one of the early sheriffs of Cass County. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are as follows: Mildred Ellen, William Marion, Miriam, Kenneth Archibald, Angus Donald, Emily Christine, and Vivian Pratt.

Mr. Taylor is a member of the Presbyterian church of the Sangamon River bottom, in which he has officiated as elder since 1894, and has been clerk of the session since 1904. In politics he is a Democrat, and held the office of road commissioner six years, serving as county commissioner from 1909 to 1912. He is identified with the M. W. A. Picon Camp No. 530, of Chandlerville.

TAYLOR, John Horrom. Yet a young man, the gentleman whose name appears at the head of the following sketch is one of the most prominent and well-to-do among the more prosperous

agriculturists of Cass County. He is a native of the county, having been born on the Sangamon River bottom, in township 18, range 10, on January 20, 1879. He is, moreover, not only one of the most prominent and prosperous of the farmers of this section, as well as one of its most extensive stockraisers, but one possessing a cultivation somewhat unusual in men of his occupation, and a fund of information that causes him to be accepted as an authority on many questions arising in the community where he lives, and where all his days have been spent.

John H. Taylor is a son of William and Mary E. (Horrom) Taylor, the former a Scotchman by birth, and the latter a native of Cass County. The birth of William Taylor occurred February 10, 1819, and that of Mary E. Taylor, February 10, 1840. The father came to the United States and located in Ohio in 1837, settling in Illinois in 1839. John H., who was the sixth of their seven children, lived with his parents until 1896, attending the district schools in early youth, and the Chandlerville High school at a later period. In 1897 he entered Lincoln (Ill.) University, from which he was graduated in June, 1902, with the degree of B. L.

Returning then to the home farm he operated the place, with R. A. Taylor, until the time of his marriage, September 20, 1909. On this date, he was wedded to Edna Elliott Taylor, a native of Elkhart, Ill., and a daughter of Chelsa L. and Sarah Josephine (Allen) Taylor, the father of Columbus, Adair County, Ky., and the mother of Greggsville, Pike County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have one daughter, Marjorie Caroline, born July 10, 1910.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor moved into a modern residence of nine rooms, with all the latest improvements, which he had just erected on his farm. This house contains closets, bath, hot and cold water, etc., and is lighted with acetylene gas, and the farm comprises 492 acres, of which 275 are on the bluff and the rest on Sangamon River bottom. Mr. Taylor is successfully engaged in grain farming, and is also devoting attention to raising horses, hogs and cattle on an extensive scale.

In religious faith Mr. Taylor is a Presbyterian. Politically he is identified with the Republican party. He and his wife are highly esteemed wherever their acquaintance extends.

TAYLOR, Robert A.—The Taylor brothers, sons of William Taylor, deceased, of Cass County, Ill., have all become known, especially along the Sangamon River bottom lands, as expert grain farmers and successful breeders of horses, cattle and hogs. The youngest of these, Robert A., has abundantly maintained the reputation of his elder brothers in this respect, and although but slightly over thirty years of age, owns and operates one of the finest grain and stock farms in this section of Illinois. Besides being an enterprising and successful farmer, Mr. Taylor is a man of varied information of a practical nature that makes him an interesting and edifying neighbor, and has applied himself to collegiate study to such an extent as to become thoroughly versed in literature both ancient and modern, and this gives him an especial prominence in a community which appreciates literary acquirements at their true value.

Robert Alexander Taylor is a native of Cass County, having been born in township 18, range 10, April 2, 1882, and of the seven children of William and Mary E. (Horrom) Taylor is the youngest. The father of the family died in the year 1900, and the son had always been a member of the home group, attending the district schools in early youth. After his preliminary schooling he matriculated in Lincoln College, where he was a pupil five years, graduating in 1905, with the degree of B. L. After completing his education he resumed farming, and now owns 385 acres of the homestead place, 200 acres of which lie on the bluff and are used for pasture. Here he devotes his attention to raising horses, cattle and hogs, besides doing general grain farming. He also owns a 145-acre farm adjoining the home place, 100 acres of which is on the bluff and the rest is bottom land.

On December 31, 1913, Mr. Taylor was married to Minnie Theivagt, born August 12, 1882, on the Sangamon River bottom, in Cass County, a daughter of William and Belle (Haywood) Theivagt. In religious belief, Mr. Taylor adheres to the Presbyterian church. Politically he acts with the Republican party.

THE BEARDSTOWN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, of Beardstown, Cass County, Ill., which was started March 1, 1907, was organized for the purpose of doing all kinds of construction work, as well as building. In the few years of its operation its reputation for skill and efficiency has spread widely, and the scope of its operations has been extended over many parts of the country. Its projectors were James D. McCarthy and David R. Hughes, of Beardstown, and it was incorporated under its present title, March 3, 1913, the following officers being elected: James D. McCarthy, president; David R. Hughes, vice-president; and Guilford M. Humphrey, secretary-treasurer.

A considerable number of buildings, public and private, as well as other structures have been erected by this concern, among which are the notable specimens at Beardstown below mentioned: the Myer Hotel, on East Fourth street; H. M. Schmoldt building, corner Third and State streets; Gem Picture Theatre building; Princess Theater; Beardstown State Bank and McCarthy-Hackman building; Elk building; Chris Ruppel building; Illinois Star building; John Reich building; Sixth Street Lutheran Church; Central Illinois Public Service building; Catholic parsonage; Shultz Hall; D. R. Hughes residence, John Diehl residence, and many other business buildings and residences, and also the cement road leading from Beardstown to Virginia. The territory covered by the company's work is not confined to this section, but extends throughout central United States. It also constructs reinforced concrete bridges. Near Burlington, Iowa,

the Des Moines Co. Drainage District No. 1 Pumping plant on the Mississippi River was one of its contracts, and that is considered one of the finest pieces of construction of its kind to be found in the world.

The reputation of the gentlemen composing this company is a sufficient guarantee of the character of its work, and the citizens of Beardstown especially, where the evidences of their skill abound, repose much confidence in them individually. The office quarters of the company are at Nos. 5, 5½, and 6 Hackman-McCarthy building, and its plant and yards are on Sixth street between the B. & O. R. R. and the C. B. & Q. R. R.

THEIVAGT, Claude A., is an enterprising and thrifty young farmer living at Chandlerville, Cass County, Ill., who, by his industry and energy has made himself quite favorably known in his vicinity, especially as the man who holds the record in his section for raising clover and cloverseed, having had a yield of the latter, in 1913, of 133 bushels from twenty acres of land. He also makes a specialty of breeding Poland-China hogs, of which he raises a considerable number. His farm is situated in section 34, township 19, range 9, where he has been located ever since he commenced farming on his own responsibility.

Claude A. Theivagt's birthplace was near the city of Hamburg, Germany, where his life began, March 1, 1876. His father, Jacob Theivagt, and his mother, whose maiden name was Metta Peters, both born near Hamburg, came to the United States May 21, 1890. About five weeks afterward the mother died, and her husband buried her at Virginia, Ill., remaining in America but seven months longer. He returned to his home in Germany, leaving behind the two sons who had accompanied him here. His occupation was that of a laborer. Before coming to America Claude Theivagt had obtained some education in the German schools, and had spent some time on a farm. He continued to do farm work here by the month in various places, and ultimately bought the tract of eighty acres on which he now lives. This he has since improved by new building, and on it has carried on farming and stockraising successfully.

In Cass County, Ill., on March 29, 1904, Mr. Theivagt was united in marriage by Rev. J. H. Morron, with Addie N. Briar, born December 14, 1866, a daughter of Charles and Margaret (Houck) Briar. They have one daughter, Mertis Margaret, born July 10, 1906. Mr. Theivagt is a man of decided character, though pleasant in manner. Politically, he is a Republican. He has served one term of three years as school director, and is serving a second term. His religious connection is with the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

THOMPSON, Edgar Guthrie.—Amid the farming population of Cass County, Ill., the Thompson family, of which the above named gentleman is a worthy representative, has always occupied a creditable place. Intelligent, well informed, enterprising and honorable, its members have been considered useful citizens, and through industry and thrift have become prosperous farmers, and ranked as substantial elements of the community. Edgar Guthrie Thompson was born in Arenzville Precinct, Cass County, Ill., August 3, 1877, and is a son of Robert G. and Tabitha (Craig) Thompson, natives of Morgan County, Ill. After their marriage the parents of Edgar G. Thompson settled on a farm of 320 acres in the vicinity of Arenzville where the father carried on general farming. He was also a cattle feeder to a considerable extent and raised Poland-China hogs on a large scale. On July 1, 1913, he moved to Jacksonville, Ill., leaving the supervision of the home place to Noah J., the second son. His children were: Edgar, Noah, Louise (Mrs. Harry Herring) of Jacksonville, Ill., and Nellie (Mrs. Lynwood Lane) of Pleasant Hill, Mo.

Edgar Thompson attended the district schools in his locality subsequently becoming a pupil for one year in the Virginia High school, and then taking a course in Brown's Business College, at Jacksonville. On completing his studies, Mr. Thompson applied himself to the work of the farm which he continued until his marriage. He was wedded September 27, 1900, to Anna Treadway, who was born August 23, 1882, in Cass County. Her parents are Henry and Margret (Wilson) Treadway, both natives of Cass County. Following his marriage, Mr. Thompson moved to a farm of 218 acres in township 17, Cass County, where he is engaged in general farming, and in addition to this, devotes considerable attention to stock feeding and the raising of Poland-China hogs. He has prospered in his undertakings and is looked upon as one of the most reliable and promising of the younger agriculturists of his section. In politics Mr. Thompson supports the principles of the Democratic party. He is a member of the Masonic order at Virginia.

THOMPSON, John H.—The well known and efficient superintendent of the Cass County (Illinois) Poor Farm, situated at Bluff Springs, is the offspring of parents who were early residents of Cass County. Their son, John H., was born in the county April 23, 1863. His father, Robert Thompson, was a native of Virginia, while his mother, Mary Jane (Etchison) Thompson, was born in Kentucky in 1818. The grandparents, James and Lovisa Young, both Kentuckians by birth, located in Cass County in 1822, entering land in Morgan County. The year of Robert Thompson's arrival in the county was 1844. He was a young man, working at farming, and after marriage lived at Sand Prairie, in the western part of Beardstown. He died in December, 1900, and his widow lived with one of her sons until her death in April, 1912. She bore her husband the following children: Willis P., of Rock Falls, Ill.; Sarah (Mrs. George McDonald), of Virginia; John H.;

George, of Cass County, Ill.; and Martha E., deceased.

John H. Thompson attended the common schools in his youth and from the age of twenty-one until his marriage, worked on the farm for his father. In September, 1886, he was wedded to Nettie Johnson, born in Morgan County, Ill., and now deceased, who left one daughter, Bertha, who died at the age of three years. The second marriage of Mr. Thompson was with Maggie Kirkendall, a native of Cass County, Ill., who bore him three children: Dollie Albertine, of Virginia, Ill.; William Bryan, at home; and John, who died in infancy. The mother of these children died in March, 1900. In August, 1900, Mr. Thompson took for his third wife Carrie Davis, a native of Cass County, Ill., whose parents, Valentine and Sarah J. (Treadway) Davis, were born in the same county. To Mr. Thompson and his present wife two children have been born: Henry, born October 10, 1902; and Ida Mae, born March 4, 1906.

After his marriage Mr. Thompson carried on farming for two years on his forty acres of land in township 17, then sold to James Cook, and moving to Morgan County, rented a farm there for one year. Subsequently he moved to Beardstown and engaged in teaming, having contracted to haul iron for a bridge over the Illinois River at Beardstown. Two years later he moved to Virginia, from which place he conducted a 200-acre farm for two years. Then he worked at different tasks until 1897, when he cultivated a farm south of Virginia for some time.

In March, 1901, Mr. Thompson became superintendent of the Cass County Poor Farm, and has since held that position. He has charge of 190 acres, of which 100 are tillable and ninety in pasture. Since Mr. Thompson assumed the supervision, the farm has been on a self-supporting basis. The place contains a large building for the inmates, of which there is an average of twenty-five yearly; it is equipped with seven head of working horses, and has a horse barn, a cattle barn, a tool shed, an ice house, a smoke-house, a chicken house and a corn crib. It is provided with a pest house for all contagious diseases. Connected with the place are a three-acre orchard, a fine garden, and land for small fruit. There is a dairy with eight cows, and sixty head of hogs are kept for furnishing meat.

Mr. Thompson is a member of the Presbyterian church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the A. F. & A. M.; the I. O. O. F. (all degrees); the K. of P., of Beardstown (all degrees); and the B. P. O. E. No. 1007.

THOMPSON, Loren B.—There is no doubt but that the business of farming is going to be one of the utmost importance during many years to come in the United States. The demand for foodstuffs perhaps will increase largely from the battle-scarred fields of foreign countries, while population, rapidly increasing at home, will require more and more of that which can only be produced by the skill, knowledge and industry of the American farmer. Upon the work and success of the agriculturists depend the substantial prosperity of any country.

Loren B. Thompson is one of the Cass County farmers who has already demonstrated what one scientific agriculturist can accomplish. He was born at Virginia, Ill., May 27, 1876, a son of Walter M. and Fannie (Wyatt) Thompson, natives of Cass County, Ill., and Kentucky, respectively. The maternal grandparents, William M. and Nancy J. (Nance) Wyatt, were of Kentucky, while the paternal grandfather, James Thompson, was a native of Ireland. Both the Thompsons and Wyatts were very early settlers of Cass County, Ill. Members of both families entered land from the government and put it under cultivation. The parents after their marriage, located at Sugar Grove, near Virginia, where they lived a few years, later buying 320 acres of land in township 18, range 9. There the father resided, conducting his farm until August, 1890, when they moved to Virginia, he embarking in the implement business in 1893 but later retired, about 1906.

Loren B. Thompson was the only child of his parents, and was given an excellent education, being sent first to the district schools and the high school of Virginia, and then to the University of Illinois at Champaign. He also took a course at the Gem City Business College, at Quincy, Ill. Until 1900 he resided with his parents, but then went to Oregon Point to take charge of Woodland Farm, now consisting of 590 acres, owned by him and his father. Here he raises horses, cattle, mules, sheep, and hogs, and carries on general farming, his results being such as to justify his methods which are very advanced, many of them having been adopted as the outcome of personal experiments.

On September 12, 1905, Mr. Thompson was married to Jennie Fern Sharp, born in Mason City, Ill., June 24, 1884, a daughter of Royal William and Anna M. (Burnham) Sharp, natives of Lockport, N. Y., and Mason County, Ill., respectively. The paternal grandparents, William and Sarah Ann Sharp, were natives of New York state. Mrs. Thompson's father was a dentist by profession. She was educated in the public and high schools of Mason City, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson became the parents of two children: L. B., who was born December 23, 1909; and Frances Vaunel, who was born April 10, 1913. Since 1909, Mr. Thompson has been a steward in the Methodist church to which he belongs. He is a Democrat, and has been a school director since 1907.

THORNBORROW, John A., D. V. S.—Since the recognition of the fact that horses and other stock suffer from serious ailments which require as careful doctoring as human beings, the profession of a veterinary surgeon has increased in importance, and many of those engaged in this line of work rank high as successful medical men. One of the best known veterinaries of Cass County is Dr. John A. Thornborrow, of Virginia, who was born at Jacksonville, Morgan

County, Ill., February 11, 1873, a son of John and Eliza (Travis) Thornborrow, the former born at Kirbylongsdale, England, and the latter at Oldham, England. They married after coming to the United States, and spent the greater part of their married life in Morgan County. John Thornborrow died in 1891, while his wife passed away in 1903.

John A. Thornborrow was thoroughly educated, as he not only attended the public and high schools of his native place, but also took a course at Brown's Business College, from which he was graduated in 1891; then began studying veterinary surgery, and was graduated from the Chicago Veterinary College in 1893. For the following five months, he worked at Jacksonville, and then came to Virginia, arriving in this city in December, 1893, where he has since resided. In October, 1913, Dr. Thornborrow embarked in an auto garage business, and now not only operates an auto livery, but has large storage accommodation, and additionally deals in accessories and does all kinds of repairing.

On April 28, 1900, Dr. Thornborrow married Margaret Musch, a daughter of John and Margaret (Schaaf) Musch who were born in Morgan County, Ill. Dr. and Mrs. Thornborrow have three living children: Margaret, Frank and John, the two elder attending the public school, and Elizabeth, who died in 1911, aged five years.

TIBBS, Charles W.—In proportion to extent and population, few counties in Illinois have contributed more to the general prosperity of the state than that which furnishes the scene of the biographical narratives composing this volume, and among those of its citizens entitled to creditable mention is Charles W. Tibbs, who is located near Oakford, Cass County, his farm lying in section 33, township 19, range 8, and comprising 260 acres of excellent land, Oakford being the postoffice address. Here, in addition to general farming, he is engaged in the raising of stock, in which he has met with a reasonable measure of success. He was born in Menard County, Ill., November 19, 1868, and is a son of George W. and Adelia (Boosa) Tibbs. The father was a native of Menard County, born in 1824. The mother was born in Germany, and at the age of eight years accompanied her parents to the United States, they settling in Sangamon County, Illinois.

In boyhood Charles W. Tibbs spent some time in attendance at the district school of his neighborhood, and subsequently applied himself diligently to the work of the home farm. On April 21, 1891, Mr. Tibbs was married in Cass County, Ill., to Mary Webbake, a native of that county. Her father and mother were Germans by birth, the name of the latter being Elizabeth Deighty, the date of whose birth was April 4, 1839. In early life they emigrated to the United States, settled in Illinois and engaged in farming. Nine children resulted from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Tibbs, eight of whom are living and at home, and one dead. The names of these children are as follows: Elizabeth, John William, Charles Antona, Clara Marie, Henry George, Joseph William, Anna Elizabeth, Thomas Franklin, all living, and Francis Adelia, deceased. In politics Charles W. Tibbs is affiliated with the Democratic party, although he has mingled but little in party affairs. In religious belief he is a Catholic. He is of a quiet disposition and undemonstrative in deportment, but quite sociable in his intercourse with neighbors and friends.

TRAUT, Frank J., civil engineer and senior member of the firm of Traut & Osner, is a man whose efforts have been ably directed towards the reclamation of swamp lands and the provision of means for the proper disposition of sewerage. His success has been remarkable and he has brought to his work not only experience and scientific knowledge, but a thorough appreciation of its importance and dignity. He was born at Erie, Pa., December 7, 1865, a son of Valentine and Margaret (Geeck) Traut, natives of Germany. They became acquainted after arrival in the United States and were married at Erie, Pa., January 28, 1863. The father was a carpenter, who, in 1883, moved to Denver, Colo., where he alternated working at his trade and operating a ranch. His death occurred there April 10, 1913, when he was eighty-one years old. The mother died in August, 1908, aged seventy-one years.

Frank J. Traut spent his boyhood with his parents, and attended the public schools of Erie, Pa., and Denver, Colo., and also the Denver University. When eighteen years old, he entered the engineering department for railroad construction. After five years in this business in the western states, he then went with another engineering company, and was employed as a civil engineer at New York City, Cleveland, Ohio, Washington, D. C., St. Louis, Mo., Chicago, Ill., Kansas City, Mo., Denver, Colo., and Omaha, Neb. He superintended two miles of digging on the Chicago Drainage Canal and in February, 1895, came to Beardstown for the purpose of purifying and reclaiming Illinois bottom lands. Among other things in connection with his work, he built the levee and dug interior drainage ditches, and superintended the entire work. This was the first drainage district along the Illinois River, and proved so successful, that Mr. Traut has been called upon to render expert service in computing the cost of construction of similar projects ever since, in many cases superintending their construction. In 1905, he entered into a partnership for drainage construction operating under the caption of the Federal Contracting Company, a corporation which dissolved in 1913. Immediately thereafter, Mr. Traut and William Osner, of Chicago, formed the present firm of Traut & Osner, for the purpose of dredging and draining swamp land and doing all kinds of reclamation work, and have already made their name stand for the highest degree of efficiency.

Mr. Traut was married May 28, 1890, at

Cleveland, Ohio, to Henrietta Miller, born at Erie, Pa., a daughter of John and Elizabeth Miller, natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Traut have one son, Francis Harry, who was born June 18, 1898. Mr. Traut is a Catholic in religious faith. Politically he is a Democrat, while fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Columbus of Beardstown, Ill., and the Elks, No. 1007, of the same place.

TREADWAY, Jacob E., whose life has been spent in agricultural work, is one of the respected men of Cass County, and his actions as a man and resident of Virginia Precinct merit the confidence in which he is held by his associates. He was born in Virginia Precinct December 20, 1850, a son of William T. and Mary (McHenry) Treadway, natives of Hamilton County, Ohio, and of Westmoreland County, Pa., respectively, and a grandson of Edward and Elizabeth (Anderson) Treadway, natives of Maryland, and Jacob and Margaret (Moffett) McHenry, natives of Pennsylvania. In 1829 the paternal grandparents came to Cass County, the maternal grandparents following in 1835.

On October 24, 1878, Jacob E. Treadway was married to Christina Elizabeth Paschal by Rev. D. Jolly, of Virginia, Ill. She was born in Cass County, Ill., May 4, 1853, a daughter of Jerret and Margaret (Schaeffer) Paschal, the latter of whom was born in Ohio. The family born to Mr. and Mrs. Treadway is as follows: Lola Grace, who is Mrs. T. Virgil Davis of Cass County; one child died in infancy; and Raymond L., who married Blanche Suffern, born at Virginia, a daughter of Samuel R. and Charlotte (Underwood) Suffern, natives of Cass County. Raymond L. Treadway and wife are the parents of a daughter, Christina Elizabeth, who was born May 29, 1907.

After his marriage, Mr. Treadway moved to a farm adjoining his father's home farm of 110 acres, which he had bought prior to his wedding. On this he built the necessary structures and has all of the property under a high state of cultivation, and in addition to his homestead, he owns twenty-five and one-half acres a short distance from the home farm, on which his son, Raymond L., is now living. In addition, Mr. Treadway has three and one-half acres of timber. Since striking out for himself, Mr. Treadway has carried on general farming, and raises horses, cattle and hogs, having become somewhat of an expert in his several lines. The Presbyterian church holds his membership, and he has been a presiding elder in the same for a number of years. His political views make him a Democrat, and he served his township as road commissioner for six terms.

TREADWAY, James, was the son of John Norris and Rebecca (McKean) Treadway, born March 31, 1832, in Monroe Precinct, near Beardstown, Illinois. In 1844, known as the "year of the high water," he came with his parents and brothers, Thomas, Edward, William, John, Henry, Lewis and Martin, to Beardstown, all of whom are deceased, except William, now eighty-six years of age, residing in Little Rock, Ark. He worked, when a small boy, in the John Eiler brick yard, located on Third and Edwards streets, at 6¼c per day, purchasing for his mother with his first earnings, a set of the "old blue willow-ware" cups and saucers.

James Treadway learned the milling and carpenter trades when Beardstown was the great pork packing center, then called "Pork-o-polis." He engaged with his father in the making of pork barrels and lard tierces, conducting three shops with a force of men. His father withdrew and lived to the age of ninety-two years, having served in the war of 1812. James continued to conduct the business until the pork packing industry ceased, afterward in a small way supplying the farmers with barrels, until poor health compelled him to retire. He was married Dec. 27, 1855, to Miss Rebecca Mary Rawlings, daughter of Greenberry and Elizabeth Rawlings, who lived on a farm on North Prairie, near Arenzville, Ill., he purchasing for their home the spot where he worked when a boy for a "picayune" a day. Here they lived until the father passed away. To them were born four children: Eliza Bell, Oliver Greenberry, Norris Luama and Clara Olive, the last the only surviving one and now the wife of A. E. Schmoldt, of Beardstown, Ill. The mother survived her husband nine years, making her home with her daughter, passing away April 14, 1913, at the age of eighty-one years, eight months and sixteen days. She was born August 30, 1831, at Port Deposit, Md.

There was a strange coincidence in the death of husband and wife, he passing away March 28, 1904, during the next highest water known to the year he came to Beardstown, rendering access to the cemetery impossible with vehicles, necessitating a railroad train to convey the remains to their last resting place, and the wife's demise occurred during the highest stage of water ever known, in the year 1913.

TREADWAY, Jefferson V., has spent his entire career within the limits of Cass County, and he is thoroughly familiar with agricultural conditions here and the possibilities for success. He belongs to that substantial, solid class which forms the backbone of every prosperous community, and as a citizen has shown himself reliable, energetic and public-spirited. Jefferson V. Treadway was born in Cass County, Ill., July 30, 1863, and is a son of William T. and Mary (McHenry) Treadway, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania.

Educated in the public schools and reared to agricultural pursuits, Mr. Treadway remained on the home farm until the time of his marriage, October 16, 1890, to Miss Mary R. Gaines, who was born in Shelby County, Ill., February 14, 1870, a daughter of Preston F. and Emma (Bateman) Gaines, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Delaware. After his marriage Mr. Treadway purchased a farm three and one-half miles northwest of Virginia, a tract

of 120 acres, which he put under a high state of cultivation, and on which he resided for two years. He then sold out and purchased property at Virginia, where he was engaged in various occupations during the following eleven years, including the conducting of a meat market and a transfer business. He then located on his present farm in township 17, range 10, which had formerly belonged to his father, and which was left to him at the time of the elder man's death, in 1912. Here Mr. Treadway has 146¾ acres, which he devotes to general farming and the raising of hogs and cattle. Mr. Treadway bears the reputation of being a skilled and practical farmer, an excellent judge of stock and a business man of the strictest integrity. His career has been one of constant endeavor and consecutive advancement, and well-earned success has crowned his efforts. A Democrat in his political views, he has ever been willing to do his full share in promoting the interests of his community, and has served two terms in the capacity of school director. Fraternally, Mr. Treadway is connected with the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America, at Virginia. Mrs. Treadway is a member of the Eastern Star. Mr. and Mrs. Treadway are consistent members of the Presbyterian church. They have one daughter, Mary E., who was born November 26, 1896.

TREADWAY, Stephen A., is a prosperous farmer and stockman whose 360-acre farm known as the Willow Beach Farm, is one of the finest properties in the county, located as it is in close proximity to the city limits of Beardstown, on the Illinois River. He was born in Cass County, Ill., March 7, 1858, a son of George A. and Elizabeth (Miller) Treadway, the former born May 11, 1812, and the latter in West Virginia, January 20, 1814. George A. Treadway moved from Maryland, his native state, to Ohio, with his parents, but in 1828 the family came to Cass County, Ill. The Miller family originated in West Virginia, from whence members of it moved to Kentucky, and then to Cass County, Ill., arriving here in the fall of 1829. The father was a farmer and stockraiser and a prominent man in his day.

Stephen A. Treadway attended the schools of his district, and was reared on the farm where he made himself useful very early. In 1879 he left Cass County for Nebraska, and spent three years in that state, then returned to his native county, but after his marriage went back to Nebraska and spent five years more there on the farm he had acquired. He then sold it and once more returned to Cass County, buying a farm near Bluff Springs where he lived fourteen years, then bought his present valuable farm where he has since resided. A Democrat, he served as a school director in Nebraska. Mr. Treadway is also one of the commissioners of the South Beardstown Drainage and Levee District, which is 12 miles long and drains 7,300 acres of land.

On February 16, 1887, Mr. Treadway was married in Cass County to Maria Leonhard, born in Cass County October 27, 1860, a daughter of Michael and Maria (Nickle) Leonhard, natives of Germany, who came to the United States, the father working for a few years in the packing house at Beardstown before they settled down to farming. Mr. and Mrs. Treadway became the parents of the following children: Carl M., Lula M., Leonard A., Edwin B., Nela A., Myrtle E., Stella, and Anna E., of whom the five youngest were born in Cass County. Mr. Treadway is a man of genial personality, one who makes and retains friends and he stands well in the community. He has been a member of the M. W. A. for many years.

TURLEY, Howard, a resident of Arenzville, Ill., whose fine farm of 160 acres lies in township 17, range 11, Cass County, Ill., was born in Morgan County, Ill., on April 17, 1852, a son of John and Elizabeth (Ogle) Turley, natives of Kentucky. John Turley was born in 1817 and died in 1869. His widow, who was born in 1822, still survives, and makes her home with her son Howard.

When young both John Turley and Elizabeth Ogle moved to Morgan County, where they were married, and then settled on a farm in the vicinity of Concord. In 1868 they changed their residence to Arcadia, Ill., where John Turley died, and the family subsequently moved back to Concord. There Howard Turley lived with his mother on rented land for nineteen years, and then moved to Portland, Oregon, where he also farmed. After working on a farm there he herded cattle in Washington for eighteen months, remaining in the northwest for five years. He served in the Modoc Indian war, being a volunteer in the Oregon militia for fifty-two days, in 1873. Returning then to Morgan County, Ill., he started farming on his mother's farm. In his youth Howard Turley had attended the Mt. Vernon district school, near Concord, and obtained a fair common school education.

On January 24, 1878, Mr. Turley was united in marriage with Margaret J. Goodpasture, born near Concord, Ill., December 28, 1897, daughter of Abram and Zannah (Richardson) Goodpasture, natives of Tennessee and Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Turley have the following children: John A., born March 17, 1879, lives on his father's place and married Kathrina Schurther; and Mora, born September 7, 1887, now Mrs. Eugene L. Peck, lives with her father. Mrs. Turley is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Turley located in Cass County, Ill., where he rented farms for fourteen years. Then Mr. Turley bought a forty-acre improved farm, later adding 120 acres, and on these 160 acres he carries on general farming. He has built several houses and has put up all the present improvements. Besides grain farming he raises cattle and hogs. In politics Mr. Turley is a Democrat, and has served as clerk of elections many years and as

school director, and since 1895 he has served as road district clerk, and since 1911 he has been deputy assessor of township 17, range 11, Cass County.

TURNER, Joseph J., proprietor of 200 acres of as fine farm land as can be found in Cass County, is an excellent example of the scientific agriculturalist of today. He understands his work, takes a pride in it, and endeavors in every way to keep his property up to standard. He was born August 3, 1880, a son of Joseph and Mary Jane (Chittick) Turner, natives of the north of Ireland. These parents came to America in their youth. They were married at Virginia, Ill., and for a number of years, the father was employed by Dr. Robert Hall, but left him finally to settle on his own eighty-acre farm then all brush and timber. At first the pioneer lived in a cave, but before he married had a house to which to invite his bride. He worked hard in clearing off the brush and grubbing out the stumps, and when this farm had been placed under cultivation, he bought 120 acres more, adjoining his first purchase. This, he also cleared of brush, and used it as pasture land. Still later he bought 200 acres more, one mile east of his original home, and on this last property he erected new buildings, fenced the fields and made other improvements. On this farm he died in January, 1908, his widow still making it her home. Their children were as follows: Anna, who is Mrs. Henry Flowers, of Kansas City, Mo.; Robert, who is of Cass County; Maud, who is Mrs. Charles Wunderly, of Lone Jack, Mo.; Joseph J.; Samuel, who is of Ann Arbor, Mich.; and George, who is teaching school.

Joseph J. Turner attended the schools of his district and lived at home until his marriage, at which time he moved to one of his father's farms which he rented until March, 1914, when he purchased the claims of the other heirs, in this property, and now owns 200 acres of magnificent land. On it he carries on general farming and stockraising, handling horses, cattle and Poland-China hogs. His premises exhibit his excellent management, and he is recognized as one of the leading farmers of Cass County.

In October, 1903, Mr. Turner married Elizabeth Gebhardt of Cass County, a daughter of Andrew and Amelia (Stump) Gebhardt, natives of Germany and of Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Turner became the parents of three children: Marie, Louise and Joseph. Mr. Turner is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of which he is a trustee. For some time he has been a school director of District No. 6, known as the Morgan school. In political faith he is a Democrat.

VIRGIN, John W.—One of the most interesting characters connected with the development of Cass County, Ill., during its later growth, is John W. Virgin, whose history is unique in the number and variety of enterprises in which he has been concerned, in the extent of his acquaintance with men prominent in the earlier course of the history of this section, and in the zest of his experiences of travel in different localities of the western country, and in his identification with modern farm life and management of a superior order in the vicinity of his home.

John W. Virgin is a native of Menard County, Ill., where he was born on a farm one mile south of the old country town of Sweetwater, January 31, 1854, his parents being George and Eliza (Enslow) Virgin, the father a native of Fayette County, Pa., and the mother of Wheelersburg, Scioto County, Ohio. They were married at Pekin, Ill., in 1852. They located on an 80-acre Menard County farm (bought at $20 and now worth $200 per acre) where they lived until 1859, when they moved to Morgan County and bought a larger farm of Jacob Strawn, the then "land and cattle king" of Illinois. Five years later they sold this to Z. W. Flinn, and purchased three other farms six miles southeast of Virginia from James Hill, Newton Runyan and Oswald Runyan, where they lived until 1904. From about 1848 until 1904, George Virgin was actively engaged in the cattle business. Before the advent of railroads, he, with his brother, Eli, bought and drove beef cattle from Illinois to New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore markets; later, they, with John T. Alexander, Sr., followed buying, feeding and shipping cattle to New York. In 1904 ill health compelled the retirement of George Virgin from active business and he and his wife removed to Virginia, leaving "the boys" to run the 800-acre farm. His death occurred in September, 1908, at the age of eighty years, his widow passing away at the same age in January, 1914, thus ending one of the best known and most hospitable homes of central Illinois. The children of George and Eliza (Enslow) Virgin were as follows: John W.; Ida (Mrs. George Aldridge), of Virginia, Ill.; Eli T., of Junction City, Ore.; George M., of Fresno, Cal.; Orland deceased, and Frank and Fred well known Cass County farmers and stockmen.

At the age of seventeen years, John W. Virgin began work as a bookkeeper in Petefish, Skiles & Co.'s bank (of which firm his father was then a member) in Virginia, and three years later, became assistant cashier of the Farmers National bank of Virginia (of which his father was president for twenty-seven years) and continued in this position four years, when impaired health and "the call of the wild" lured him to the Rocky Mountains. In 1879, he, with some of his friends, Lou L. Savage, C. W. Crews, J. L. Cosner, J. M. Downing, Will Shuff and Alex Walker organized a prospecting expedition, and with six mules, two wagons, six months' supply of groceries, and with their camping outfit loaded into a box car, they departed for Leadville, Colo., then at its wildest, and 120 miles beyond the nearest railroad. All sooner or later returned to Illinois, except C. W. Crews, who is managing director of the Crews-Beggs Dry Goods Company at Pueblo, and J. M. Down-

ing, who is a well knowu lawyer and politician of Aspen, Colo.

Mr. Virgin spent five years prospectiug and mining iu Colorado, where he made some money, but spent about $5,000 more than he made trying to "get rich." In 1883 he went to New Mexico and engaged with others in cattle ranching, beiug a stockholder and manager of the Illinois Cattle Company, of which his brother George was also a stockholder and secretary. San Marcial, Socorro County, a division point on the Santa Fe Railroad, 120 miles north of the Old Mexico liue, was their headquarters. Socorro County is about the size, in square miles, of the state of Delaware. The cattle industry fast assumed a leading position among property interests, and the cattle men soon felt the need of a representative on the county taxing board. J. W. Virgin was selected as their candidate for county commissioner, to which office he was elected by the largest majority on the county ticket. The other two comuissioners were Mexicans, who regarded the innovation of an American with suspicion, but Mr. Virgin soon gained their entire confidence and secured needed reforms in county affairs, a more equitable distribution of taxes, reduced a floating county debt of $56,000 to less than $3,000, raised the tax valuation of over 400,000 acres of old Spanish land grants from 10c to 75c per acre, thus equalizing the burdens of the taxpayers, and straightened out a somewhat entangled county contract for the building of a courthouse, jail and a bridge across the Rio Grande. Socorro County has a handsome courthouse, built without even the suspicion of graft, and so gratified were the hold-over commissioners with their relief from a troublesome contract that they insisted on adding the name of J. W. Virgin to the stone tablet in the front of the building, and it so stands today as a creditable monument to his memory. Having secured the needed reforms and placed county affairs on a modern business basis, Mr. Virgin was not a candidate for re-election, but during his residence in New Mexico, the commissioners each year iusisted upon his auditing the county books, and he had no more loyal friends in the county than those old Mexican Dons. In 1898 the cattle company sold out all their holdings, range conditions having become such that the business was unprofitable.

A growing family demanding better educational and social advantages than the range country afforded, Mr. Virgin returned to Illinois with his family, locating on a 160-acre farm eight miles southwest of Virginia, a family inheritauce from the I. M. Stribling estate. In 1910 he bought eighty-two acres on the west line of the city of Virginia (part of the old Angier homestead) at $185 per acre, the present family residence from which Mr. Virgin operates both farms. In February, 1912, the house was totally destroyed by fire, and was replaced by the present colonial residence, an elegant modern home, beautifully located, half a mile west of town, and equipped with electric lights, furnace, hot and cold water and all modern conveniences.

In March, 1881, Mr. Virgin was married to Lou M. Stribling, who was born at the old Stribling home, near Virginia, February 18, 1856, the youngest daughter of the late I. M. and Margaret (Beggs) Stribling, natives respectively of Kentucky and Illinois. The Stribling family came from Kentucky to Illinois in 1832 (formerly from the state of Virginia) the grandfather of Mrs. Virgin, Benjamin Stribling, being among the first settlers of Cass County, on the well known Stribling farm a mile northwest of Virginia. The Beggs family are of Scotch-Irish extractiou. Capt. Charles Beggs, grandfather of Mrs. Virgiu, was a member of the first constitutional convention of Indiana and served as captain under General Harrison at the famous battle of Tippecanoe in western Indiana. He was oue of the early settlers of Morgan County, Ill.

The Virgin family, for several generations, have been of Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, some of the New England states aud Kentucky, and came originally from England about A. D. 1700. English records of heraldry give the family coat of arms and family motto in Latin, which, translated, reads "Now or Never." They had their part, however, with the Colonial patriots in Revolutionary days, and while they have been mostly of the great agricultural classes, some of them have taken to literary and professional lines, notably, among more recent generations, Hon. William Wirt Virgin, one of the supreme judges of Maine, the Rev. Edward Warren Virgin of Boston, and Rev. Samuel H. Virgin of New York City. Politically, all the western Virgins have been Democrats, while some of their eastern cousins have been Whigs and Republicans.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Virgin, four in number, were all born in New Mexico, and are: Dorothy E. and Norma Lucile, the former a literary and the latter au art graduate of Illinois Woman's College, Jacksonville (where their mother's education was finished); Eli Horace, a student of Illinois State University, Champaign; and Emma Louise, at present a student at the Illinois Woman's College, Jacksonville.

Mr. Virgin took the regular district school course, studied two terms at a country seminary iu Menard County and at the Virginia High school in its earliest days, and while he never had a college education, he has been a lifelong reader and student, having, by his own efforts, acquired a wider rauge of knowledge than is comprised in most college courses. He is a lifelong Democrat, and while taking an active and intelligent interest in political affairs, has never sought any political preferment, never has been a candidate for political place or office. Never having been of an aggressive or self-seeking disposition, it has been his lot rather to be ready for and equal to emergencies as they arose. As a young man he took an active part in the rehabilitation of the Farmers National Bank directorate and business. In Colorado he took

an active part in the election of the first Democratic governor the state ever had. He organized and conducted a relief expeditiou, struggling for thirty or more hours through a mountain blizzard and three to five feet of snow, rescuing alive Jack Wilson, a snowslide covered comrade, entombed alive for forty-eight hours, and who is alive and well today. In New Mexico, in addition to attending to the somewhat strenuous duties of a ranchman, he took time to give considerable study to archaeological aud pre-historic research, contributing articles to the American Archaeologist, besides taking an active part in reconstructing county affairs aud ridding the territory of its last orgauized band of "rustlers" or cattle thieves. His activity has been almost always toward the general welfare rather thau his personal aggrandizement, and while not always able to do just as he would have chosen financially, he has never found it necessary to resort to questionable practices or subterfuge. Of a somewhat literary, studious and artistic turn of mind, he is yet a plain, practical, progressive farmer and stockraiser of the better class. He has a bright and interesting family, all still at home, a home that is such iu the best sense, where, while the necessary, practical, every day affairs of life are not ueglected, the lighter, brighter, social, literary and artistic interests are all indulged. Mrs. Virgin is the constant, sympathetic companion of her children in all their affairs, and the sterner head of the family indulges all their desires, aud thoroughly hating all forms of sham or subterfuge, goes peacefully on believing fully in *the religion of his father* expressed in the proverb, "An honest man is the noblest work of God."

VON FOSSEN, Smith L.—There is no doubt but that the children of Cass County, Ill., regard Smith L. Von Fossen, of Beardstown, as the best friend they ever possessed, for he is one whose kind heart and generous impulses are continually contributing toward their enjoyment. However, the children are not the only ones of Cass County who esteem Mr. Von Fossen, for during the past twenty years there have beeu few beneficial public measures in this vicinity with which he has not been identified, and he has worked hard against those which he believed would operate to the detriment of the community. He is a thorough business man and public-spirited citizen, as well as a true frieud of children, and of the poor and oppressed. Needless it is to say that his friends are almost as numerous as the residents of his county, aud that his advice is sought and his confidence invited by young and old alike. Smith L. Von Fossen was born near Ipava, Fulton County, Ill., September 1, 1863. He is a son of William Wesley Von Fossen, born February 22, 1817, died January 12, 1891, and Julia Ann (Nevend) Von Fossen, born February 4, 1820, died May 25, 1885, both natives of Belmont County, Ohio. They were married in that county, and soon thereafter moved to Fulton County, locating on a farm, but afterwards moving to Ipava, where the mother died in 1886. Later the father came to live with his son, Smith L. Von Fossen, and his death occurred in 1888.

Smith L. Vou Fossen attended the public schools of Ipava in boyhood and at the age of sixteen years began learning bricklaying and plasteriug with his brother, Dallas, who had been in the contracting business for years. Smith L. spent five vacation seasons and one entire year besides, in learning the trade, and then he and his brother undertotok contract work in the building line at Ipava, where they contiuued together for eighteen months. The former then went to Lewiston, Ill., where for three years he was profitably engaged in the same line, after which they went to Champaign, Ill. Leaving the latter place, Mr. Von Fossen located at Beardstown, going into partnership with M. D. Halpin, in the mouument business, and this connection lasted a year, when he sold his interest to his partner, and, with Andia Terrill, founded another monument firm, Von Fossen and Terrill, which later branched out into the handliug of real estate. Their several interests became so heavy that two and one-half years later, the firm was dissolved, Mr. Terrill retaining the realty and Mr. Von Fossen the monument department. This business Mr. Von Fossen continues, and is part owner of two granite quarries, one in Minnesota and one in Wisconsin, and owns also eighty acres of quarry land in Oklahoma. In 1903 Mr. Von Fossen opened a department store, on such a large scale as to require the employing of eighteen clerks, and developed it to such proportions that in 1910, finding his responsibilities too heavy, he turned over the dry goods department to his sons, retaining under his own control his five and ten cent store, and the jewelry, music and fancy goods departments. He employs seven traveling salesmen to introduce his monument and piano goods on the road.

On October 2, 1885, Smith L. Von Fossen was married to Miss Clara Belle Griffith, a daughter of James and Nettie (Swain) Griffith. Mrs. Von Fossen was born at Waughtown, near Greensboro, N. C. Mr. and Mrs. Griffith went to Rushville, Ill., in 1870, and there the former worked at his trade of blacksmithing and wagonmaking. Mr. and Mrs. Von Fossen became the parents of the following children: Ernest Veru, who is a dry goods merchant of Beardstown; Mabel Nina, who is at home; Clyde Norman, who is with his brother in the dry goods business; Ralph J., who is with his father in business; Cyril Hill, who is at home, and Ruth and Robert (twins) who died in infancy. Mrs. Von Fossen died December 27, 1912. In religious faith, Mr. Von Fosseu is a Methodist. Politically he is a Democrat, and for two terms, he served as alderman from the Third Ward. He was president of the Commercial Association for three years, and much of its present efficiency is due to his efforts.

The fraternal connections of Mr. Von Fossen are many and varied. The Odd Fellows have in him an enthusiastic member, and for many years he has been a state officer of the Knights of Pythias. He was chairman of the building

committee which had in charge the erection, at Decatur, Ill., of a home for children and old people, connected with that order. After an exciting campaign, Mr. Von Fossen was elected over four other candidates, to the office of grand outer guard, and in 1918 he will be entitled to the office of grand chancellor of the order. In addition, he is a member of the Elks of Beardstown, in which he has held minor offices.

Notwithstanding all that he has accomplished in a business and fraternal way, it is, perhaps, as a practical friend of children that Mr. Von Fossen's name is most widely known. He was one of the originators of the "Free Fish Fries," which the city of Beardstown has conducted annually for the past twenty years. For as many years he has chartered every summer, the largest excursion steamer on the Illinois River to provide outings for the little ones, and they look forward to them with delightful anticipation, knowing that their kind friend will never fail them. Not only does he get up these excursions, but provides generously for the entertainment of those given into his charge and brings them back safely, bubbling over with childish glee, and eager to recount the doings of another day of perfect happiness. At the excursion of 1913 there were more than 1,300 children, who were taken to Meredosia, the mayor of that place proclaiming a holiday. The 1914 excursion to Bath had 1,600 children. All of the churches and Sunday schools joined in entertaining the little ones, and the city authorities furnished band music to march by. The 1915 excursion was a grand success, and when the steamer landed at Havana, the party was welcomed by delegations from the Sunday schools of that city and a committee from the Havana Commercial Association. A committee from the Havana Lodge of the Knights of Pythias was also there to welcome them. From Havana the party went to Chautauqua Park, at Quiver Lake, where they enjoyed a picnic dinner, and listened to addresses by prominent representatives of Beardstown and neighboring cities. In one year Mr. Von Fossen was invited to seven different cities with the children, each offering picnic sports. Had he done nothing else, Mr. Von Fossen through this philanthropy, has made himself honored and beloved in Cass County. Although he is one of the representative men of his locality in many ways, his name will ever be remembered, for, in ministering to the "little ones" he is serving the Master, who, in his religious faith he recognizes, and is setting a shining example.

Although now a man of large possessions it was not always so. At the time of his marriage, Mr. Von Fossen made a great deal of his own furniture, and many pieces of this are now used in his beautiful home here. This furniture was made by him because his capital was limited, and he could not afford to buy.

WAGNER, John H., who is actively engaged in general farming and raising cattle, is one of the progressive men of Cass County, pleasantly located in township 17, range 11. He was born at Beardstown, Ill., August 15, 1850, a son of George and Mary (Doerr) Wagner, natives of Germany. The grandfather was Theodore Wagner, who settled in New York state at an early date, finally locating at Albany, where he died. In 1840, George Wagner moved to Beardstown, Ill., and clerked for a time, but then bought 120 acres of land for twenty-five cents per acre. At the time of purchase it was in a wild state, but he improved it and added to his holdings until he owned 240 acres at the time of his death which occurred in January, 1897. His wife died many years before, passing away in 1862.

John H. Wagner attended the Monroe district and Bluff Springs schools, and grew up on the farm, remaining with his father until 1873, when he rented a farm at Bluff Springs, his possessions then consisting of a span of mules, harness and a wagon. Until 1895 he continued to rent land, but in that year he came to the farm he now occupies to work it on shares. It consisted of forty acres on which was a log house. Mr. Wagner built new buildings and cleared off some of the timber, and added forty acres more, now cultivating about thirty acres, the remainder being in pasturage and timber. Experiments have demonstrated that general farming and cattle raising are the most profitable to him.

On February 27, 1877, Mr. Wagner married Elizabeth Dietrich, born in Germany, a daughter of George H. and Catherine (Berg) Dietrich. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner became the parents of the following children: Mary, who is Mrs. John Witcher of Alton, Mont.; Amelia, who is Mrs. Harry Daniels of Cass County; Elizabeth, who is Mrs. Dr. M. L. Perrine of Chandlerville, Ill.; Edward W., George H. and John F., who are at home; Elmer; Josephine, who is Mrs. Jerry Lynn of Ashland, Ill.; Lydia, who is Mrs. Jule Darland of Virginia, Ill.; and Rosa and Florence. Mr. Wagner belongs to the Methodist church. He is a Republican and has served as a member of the county central committee of his party since 1906.

WAHLFELD, Fred—Fred Wahlfeld is one of the young men of Cass County, who, besides his industrious and thrifty habits, and his sensible management of the farm interests in his care, has the faculty of making a good many friends. He not only keeps his old friends, but his is such a sociable, genial, good-natured habit, as to add to their number wherever he goes. His home is in the vicinity of Chandlerville, and his farm is situated in section 34, township 19, range 9, Cass County, Ill. His birthplace was near the village of Bishop, Mason County, Ill., and he was born August 25, 1887. His father, Gerhard Wahlfeld, was born in Germany, December 18, 1856, and on coming to this country, with one brother, in 1881, engaged in farming and raising stock in Mason County. In 1882 he made a visit to Germany, and returning to this country, was married to Amelia Wessling in 1884.

In early youth Fred Wahlfeld attended the conntry district school. At the age of eighteen years he went from home to work by the month on a farm, and continued this plan until his marriage, when he and his father bonght a place, which they have named the Grand View Stock and Grain Farm. It contains 90 acres and is very prodnctive land.

On March 6, 1912, at Bath, in Mason Connty, Ill., Fred Wahlfeld was married to Lizzie May Camp. Mrs. Wahlfeld was born in Bath, Mason Connty, Ill., October 9, 1882. Her father is J. L. Camp, born Febrnary 15, 1856, and her mother's maiden name was Carolina Glackmeier, born in the same connty, Febrnary 16, 1862. Mrs. Wahlfeld was educated in the Bath High school, where she graduated, and also attended the Normal school at Normal, Ill. Finishing her education there she taught school for eleven terms in only three different schools. Religiously they are members of the Lutheran church.

WALLBAUM, Frederick C., one of the heavy landowners of Cass County and president of the State Bank of Ashland, as well as largely interested in many of the leading business enterprises of this place, is one of the thoronghly representative men of the locality in which he makes his home. He was born in Cartwright Township, Sangamon County, Ill., November 9, 1871, a son of William and Elizabeth (Chittick) Wallbaum, natives of Germany and Ireland, respectively. When William Wallbaum was eighteen years old he came to the United States, landing at St. Louis, Mo. There he found employment at his trade of shoemaking, but left that city in 1836 for Sangamon County, Ill., where he worked for different farmers for several years, then moved to Morgan County, where he married and began farming for himself about the close of the Civil war. He died January 9, 1905, aged sixty-seven and one-half years, his first wife having passed away in 1894. Their children were as follows: Frederick C.; and E. A., who is of Pleasant Plains, Ill. The father's second marriage was to Martha Conway Virgin, and they had one daughter and one son, Emma May, who is of Springfield, Ill.; and William C., who is of Ashland, Ill.

After attending the district schools Frederick C. Wallbaum took a course in the Jacksonville Business College, and for two years following his marriage resided on his father's farm. In March, 1897, he bought 200 acres of land in township 17, range 9, Cass County, two and one-half miles west of Ashland, upon which he moved, and began farming, raising registered Duroc-Jersey hogs, Percheron and a standard breed of road horses, and is a large feeder of cattle. He has added to his farm until he now owns 407½ acres in the home place, which he is personally conducting; 140 acres, jnst north of Ashland, which he rents; 240 acres in Cartwright Township, Sangamon County, which he also rents, and he is interested in several business enterprises as well. Mr. Wallbanm was one of the organizers of the Farmers State Bank of Ashland, which came into existence in September, 1905, and has been its president ever since. William Mann, of Morgan Connty, Ill., is the vice-president; M. J. Mnrray is the cashier; and Raymond Mann is the assistant cashier. The capital stock of this bank is $50,000, and dividends have been paid since the first year, and at the same time a desirable snrplus is retained. Mr. Wallbaum was also one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator Company of Ashland and Prentice, and now is secretary and treasurer of the Ashland Elevator Company. He was five years an officer in the Illinois Farmers Grain Dealers' Association, three years as director and two years as president, a cooperative grain organization composed of 350 companies which handle the most of the grain grown in the grain belt of Illinois. He is a trnstee and treasurer of the endowment fund of Shurtleff College of Alton, Ill., a pioneer Baptist school. The First Baptist chnrch of Ashland holds his membership, and the organization has had the advantage of his services as treasurer since 1899. He is a deacon and for many years has been superintendent of the Sunday school. Formerly a Repnblican, he is now a Progressive. A charter member of Ashland Lodge No. 929, A. F. & A. M., he also belongs to Jacksonville Chapter No. 3, and is a member of the Jacksonville Commandery, also a charter member of the new Shrine Lodge of Springfield. The Odd Fellows, No. 514, and the Modern Woodmen, No. 1436, both of Ashland, also hold his membership. The Court of Honor, Ashland Lodge No. 216, numbers him among its workers and earnest members.

In October, 1894, Mr. Wallbaum married Alice Clark of Petersbnrg, Ill., a daughter of Albert Allen and Ellen (Goodell) Clark, natives of Menard County, Ill. Mrs. Wallbaum is the youngest of a family of four children, and of fifty-four grandchildren of her grandfather, Henry Clark, of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Wallbaum have two children: Frederick Clark, who was born February 20, 1899, and is now a student at the Western Military Academy of Alton, Ill.; and William Lee, who was born November 28, 1900, and is attending the public school of Ashland, Ill.

WARD, Jacob D., a farmer and stockraiser of Cass County, now living in Virginia, Ill., comes of one of the old and substantial families of the country and is proud of an honorable southern ancestry. His father, the late Jacob Ward, whom he holds in tender remembrance, was born in Scott County, Ky., December 4, 1800, and there resided until 1829, in which year he came to Morgan, now Cass County, Ill., a pioneer in that locality. With another young man, by the name of Stevenson, Jacob Ward accepted a commission from neighbors and acqnaintances, to visit the country of which many favorable reports had reached them, and note desirable places in which to settle. The yonng men traveled together as far as St. Louis, Mo., Mr. Stev-

enson looking over Bloomington, Ill., and vicinity, while Mr. Ward proceeded to Beardstown and there became acquainted with a Thomas Beard, who had a store on the banks of the river and was profitably trading with the Indians. The two young men met at Cairo, Ill., when their investigations were completed, and together returned to Kentucky and reported to a meeting of those interested, at the Stevenson homestead. Mr. Ward was so pleased as to the advantages offered by Morgan County that he was eloquent in praise of that section and shortly afterward accompanied a party of sixty-two to the western country, the trip being made in wagons. After reaching their destination government land was secured and stable homes established and from those pioneers have descended many who are the representative people of Cass County.

Jacob Ward settled at Arcadia, where he started business enterprises including a hotel and a dry goods and groeery store. Other settlers soon came and the hamlet became the village of New Lexington, in memory of the old home city of Lexington, Ky. Mr. Ward was made the first postmaster of the place, and he was a county commissioner at the time Cass County was separated from Morgan County. In 1840 he bought a tract of land south of Virginia, Ill., on which he lived until 1869, moving at that time to his farm two and one-half miles east of Virginia and there died December 5, 1875, his burial being at Little Indian. Mr. Ward's country home was always the abode of generous hospitality for all who sought it. For Hon. Stephen A. Douglas he early contraeted a warm friendship that continued through life; often entertained him for days and weeks at his farm, and aided him financially, during the great statesman's struggles with poverty. He was twice married, first to Eliza Stevenson, a daughter of James Stevenson, and they had two daughters: Mary J., who became Mrs. James Beggs; and Sarah Frances, who was born August 8, 1828, married Henry S. Savage, and died October 27, 1908. His second marriage was to Sarah Frances Leight, a daughter of Peter and Eliza (Gross) Leight, and they had four children: Josephine, who died at the age of three months; Walter, who died in infancy; Jacob D., who was born January 12, 1863; and John W., who died at the age of two years. An interesting incident in the early history of the county in connection with Mr. Ward, was his bringing with him from Kentucky to Illinois, a man and woman, negro slaves, both of whom he then set free. The woman died a year later and hers was the first burial in the Stevenson cemetery at Little Indian.

Jacob D. Ward was born in Cass County as noted above and grew to manhood in his father's house. He attended the district schools and also took a course in the Gem City Commercial College at Quincy, Ill. Inheriting a large amount of land he became a farmer and for a number of years engaged in farming and stock-raising rather extensively. In 1901 he moved to Virginia, Ill., where he owns a beautiful home. On June 29, 1898, he married Mary Eugenia Van Deventer, a daughter of I. B. and Emma (Barnard) Van Deventer, born at Virginia, June 2, 1876. The father of Mrs. Ward was born in Morgan and the mother in Pike County and they now live retired at Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Ward have two children: Francis Garland, who was born April 5, 1899; and Emma Maxine, who was born February 13, 1905, both now attending the public schools. Mrs. Ward is a member of the Presbyterian church.

WASHINGTON, John E.—Few of the many fine farms in Cass County, Ill., are in better condition as to cultivation and domestic improvements, and few bear evidence of more intelligent, enterprising and thrifty management than that owned and operated by the subject of this following narrative, whose name appears above. Beyond question, he is one of the best known, most successful and most highly respected representatives of the agricultural element among the citizens of this section of Illinois. Mr. Washington lives in the vicinity of the city of Virginia, Cass County, in township 17, range 10, and owns 300 acres in township 11, range 10, which he rents. Besides this he has 146½ acres of the homestead property which belongs to his wife.

John Edward Washington was born in Union County, Ky., October 27, 1860, and is a son of Joseph H. and Sallie Ann (Offutt) Washington. The father was a native of Westmoreland, Va., and the mother of Scott County, Ky., where they were married and where they first settled. At a later period they moved to Union County, where Joseph H. Washington died in 1870. His widow lingered until January, 1901, when she passed away. Her son, John Edward, dwelt with her until 1881. In early youth he attended the common schools of Kentucky, and for three years was a pupil in the military academy at Morganfield, in the same state. In 1881 John E. Washington located in Cass County and was employed at farm work by William Treadway until October 27, 1897, when he was married to Louisa Treadway, born April 30, 1861, a daughter of his employer. Her mother's maiden name was Mary McHenry. After their marriage Mr. Washington continued to work for his father-in-law until 1901, when he began farming on 145 acres of the Treadway home place. Mrs. Treadway died August 30, 1879, and Mr. Treadway passed away July 18, 1912.

Mr. Washington has devoted considerable attention to the breeding of fine stock, raising Aberdeen Angus cattle and Poland China hogs, all registered. The farming land he rents out. He has been successful in all his undertakings, and is looked upon as high authority in handling first class stock. He has many friends among his neighbors and among the public generally in Cass County. He was reared in the tenets of the Presbyterian church. In political activity he is a supporter of the principles of the Democratic party.

WATKINS, James Albert.—In the strenuous days when almost universal conflict paralyzes the farmers of foreign countries, the value of the American farmer as the producer of foodstuffs with which to feed the world is more than ever recognized, and Cass County can point with pride to some of the most able, practical and industrious agriculturists to be found in the state. One of these men is James Albert Watkins, who not only carries on his own work successfully, but influences others to follow his example. He was born at Oregon Point, Cass County, November 19, 1865, a son of William and Emeline M. (Hinchee) Watkins, the former born in Wayne County, Ohio, and the latter of Kentucky. These parents were married in Menard County, Ill., prior to the Civil war, and on coming to Cass County bought a farm in township 18, range 9, at Oregon Point, to which they added at various times until they owned 360 acres. The father operated this farm until 1903, when he retired to Virginia and is now making it his home. He and his wife had the following children: Nancy, who died at the age of three years; Charles, who died in Kansas in 1892; William T., who is of Davis County, Iowa; Elijah, who is of Chandlerville; Margaret, who is now Mrs. M. F. Way, lives in Cass County; Lydia, who is now deceased, married Elmer Baker; James Albert; and Bell, who is the widow of William Weber of Peoria, Ill. The mother of these children died February 2, 1879. For his second wife the father married Bell Gordley, and they have one son, Warren G., of Philadelphia.

James Albert Watkins attended the schools of Oregon, and growing up on his father's farm, learned how to be a farmer to some practical purpose. He has spent his life upon his birthplace, and when his father retired took charge of the property and is now carrying on farming and stockraising. In addition to the homestead he conducts 120 acres of his own land, one and one-half miles distant, his judgment and industry making his work pay him a good return on his investment.

On February 12, 1903, Mr. Watkins married Jennie Van Etten, born in Mason County, Ill., September 24, 1867, a daughter of David and Julia (Butler) Van Etten, natives of New York state and Pennsylvania, respectively. They have no children. Mr. Watkins is a Democrat, and served as road commissioner for three years. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America at Chandlerville, and is popular and respected in that order, as he is among his other associates.

WATKINS, Thomas, one of the honored residents of Cass County, who for many years was connected actively with agricultural work, was born in Greene County, Ky., August 23, 1827, a son of Elijah and Lydia (Montgomery) Watkins, of Kentucky. They came to Wayne County, Ill., in 1829, making the trip in wagons, and a few years later went to Menard County, Ill., in the same way. After four years there, they came to Cass County, where they bought forty acres of land, adding to the farm until there was 160 acres. A portion of this was entered from the government, and some of it was timberland. The father died about 1869, and the mother died about 1874. They had a large family of children, fifteen in all, five being older than Thomas, of which family three are still living: Thomas; William M., who is of Virginia, Ill.; and Lydia E., who is Mrs. J. R. Griffin, a widow, who resides at Chandlerville.

Thomas Watkins had no educational opportunities aside from those offered by the subscription school. He resided with his parents until 1849, when he began renting land in township 18, range 9. After four years, he bought eighty acres of timber and brush land, and kept adding to his holdings until he now owns 220 acres, all under cultivation except twenty-five acres of pasturage and timber. He has lived on this farm ever since he bought and conducted it until 1894, when he turned the work over to his sons.

In 1849 Mr. Watkins married Charlotta Griffin, born in Tennessee, a daughter of Henry and Edith Griffin, of Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins became the parents of the following children: Celia J., who is Mrs. J. H. Bixler, of Idaho; Elsie, who is deceased, was Mrs. J. L. Lucas; Charles, who died in infancy; Elijah J., who is of Richmond Precinct; William A., who lives at Pittsburg, Kas.; Emeline, who is Mrs. Samuel T. Myers, of Pittsburg, Kas.; Nancy Ann, who is deceased, was Mrs. Samuel McGee; and James A., who lives with his father. Mr. Watkins belongs to the Primitive Baptist church, and has been a trustee of it since 1881. A Democrat, he served as road commissioner, and also as a school director. Mrs. Watkins died September 25, 1889, since which time his children have cared for him and tried to take her place. He is widely known and is numbered with the oldest residents of this section.

WEBBAKE, John A., of Oakford, Cass County, Ill., an industrious and thrifty farmer, favorably known throughout his section of the county, of which he is a native, was born December 21, 1870. He is of German descent, and has inherited traits of character which have made the men of Teutonic extraction prominent factors in the industrial development of Illinois. The farm operated by Mr. Webbake is located in section 32, township 19, range 8, Cass County, and the family to which he belongs were comparatively early settlers in this vicinity. His father was Anthony Webbake, also a farmer, born in Germany, February 14, 1829, and his mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Deighity, born April 18, 1840, came to this country about the year 1859. After working by the month for eight years, Anthony Webbake purchased 160 acres of farming land.

John A. Webbake received his early education in the country schools of his neighborhood and has ever since then applied himself to farming. He has added sixty acres to the home farm, and

all the buildings now improving it were erected by him. On January 10, 1893, in Menard County, Ill., he was united in marriage with Anna May Skagg, born February 11, 1870, daughter of James and Ellen (Hayes) Skagg, natives of Cass County, Ill., he born in 1833. Mr. and Mrs. Webbake have the following children: Florence E., born December 30, 1893; Mary Helen, born July 28, 1895; Jerome Charles, born July 30, 1898; Nelly Fay, born July 10, 1901; Robert Anthony, born January 2, 1904; and Alvin Franklin, born December 28, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. Webbake and their family are members of the Catholic church. It may be said of Mr. Webbake that one of his strong traits is the partiality he manifests for high-bred horses. Politically he is a Democrat.

WESSEL, Fred William.—Among the young business men of Beardstown, Ill., to whose enterprise, skill and energy much of the prosperity of Cass County is attributable, one of the most meritorious is the above named gentleman, who is at the head of the well known firm of Wessel & Sons, contractors and builders.

Fred William Wessel is a native of Beardstown, where his birth took place June 10, 1882. He is a son of Fred and Angeline (Ivemayer) Wessel. His parents, both natives of Hanover, Germany, were joined in wedlock there on July 18, 1871, coming at once to the United States and settling at Beardstown, Ill. Their children were: Fred W.; John; Henry, who died in infancy; Herman; Frank; Elizabeth (Mrs. H. H. Krems), of Beardstown; and Ella (Mrs. Otto Gebig), of the same place.

In the old country the elder Wessel had learned the trade of cabinet-maker, at which he began to work on his arrival in America, entering the employ of Henry William Wohlman. One year later, he was employed by Huge Bros., with whom he continued for seventeen years. At the end of this period, together with his cousin, Herman Wessel, he entered into the contracting business, which they followed for a few years, when Herman Wessel's interests were purchased by Clamor Reller. For the next four years the new firm conducted the business, and then Fred H. Wessel bought Mr. Reller out, and continued in the partnership until the death of the elder Wessel on June 2, 1905. His son, Fred William Wessel, was then taken in as partner, and the latter's two brothers, Frank and Herman, became members of the firm in 1908. Of these, Frank was born June 28, 1889; and Herman, August 24, 1879. The business of the Wessel concern is done under the firm name of Wessel & Sons, and covers all kinds of building contracts. They are among the leading contractors in Beardstown, and operate a mill for their own direct purposes, and procure and finish any material necessary in their line of work. All the members of this concern are considered honorable and reliable business men, and stand high as citizens, being respected by all who know them.

The marriage of Fred William Wessel took place November 29, 1906, on which date he was wedded to Ella Guelker, a daughter of Charles and Anna (Boester) Guelker, natives of Germany. Mrs. Wessel was born in Beardstown. She has borne her husband the following children: Carl, born September 5, 1908; Mildred, born June 27, 1911; and Wilbur, born February 9, 1912.

The Wessel family are members of the German Lutheran church. Fred William Wessel is a chapter Mason, and belongs also to the M. W. A. and the K. O. T. M.

WESSEL, John W., who carries on a general blacksmithing and implement business at Beardstown, is one of the substantial men of Cass County, and one who stands well with the public. He was born at Beardstown, March 23, 1880, a son of Fred and Ella (Ivemeyer) Wessel, natives of Germany. The father and mother came to the United States on their wedding trip, and remained here. He was a contractor and builder. A history of the Wessel family is given in this work.

John W. Wessel was educated in the schools of Beardstown, and learned the blacksmithing trade with a man named Hood, for whom he worked six or seven years. He then established himself in a similar business in July, 1902, in partnership with a Mr. Goehrig, which continued until the latter's death, February 16, 1911, when Mr. Wessel bought his interest. He is a very skilled mechanic and has been exceptionally successful along his line. In addition to his business, Mr. Wessel owns his residence at No. 311 W. Seventh street, Beardstown.

On May 23, 1901, Mr. Wessel was married at Beardstown, to Elizabeth Davidsmeyer, born in Hanover, Germany, February 17, 1881, a daughter of John and Hannah Davidsmeyer, both of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Wessel have two children, namely: Verna J. M., born February 2, 1907; and Viola L. E., born June 9, 1909. In politics he is a Democrat, while in religious faith he is a Lutheran. A man of abounding good nature, Mr. Wessel is a welcome addition to any gathering and counts his friends in hosts.

WHITE, Clarence J.—No man in Cass County stands any higher in public estimation than Clarence J. White, merchant miller and member of the firm of Schultz, Banjan & Co. of Beardstown, for he has won his place here by honorable business methods and convincing personality. He was born in Green County, Wis., August 10, 1880, a son of Joseph W. and Villa (Schrack) White, natives of Green County, Wis., and Stephenson County, Ill. The father was a son of Obadiah J. White, who came from Connecticut, traveling down the Ohio River in a flatboat, landing at Cincinnati, Ohio, from whence he went by stage to Green County, Wis., there entering land to the amount of 640 acres, from the government, the patent papers being signed by President Martin Van Buren, and one-half of the land he acquired remains in the family to this day. He became a distinguished

man, serving in the territorial legislature for two terms.

Clarence J. White attended the district schools of Cass County, and the Monroe High school, following which he went to the University of Wisconsin. From this institution he secured the degree of A. B., and he took a law course at Harvard University, from which he secured a degree of LL. B. For a year he taught school but after he was admitted to the bar he practiced his profession at Chicago for five years. Feeling that better opportunities awaited him in Cass County, he came to Beardstown and entered his present firm. In politics he is a Republican. He was reared in the faith of the Evaugelical church.

On February 27, 1907, Mr. White was married at Beardstown to Oliva J. Schultz, born in Cass County, November 19, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. White have had two sons: John J. and Robert J. Mr. White owns the comfortable family residence at Beardstown where the friends of the family are cordially entertained.

WHITENACK, Joseph R., a retired farmer and stockraiser, of Ashland, Cass Couuty, Ill., is very well and favorably known throughout that portion of the county where his residence is situated, and where he carried on farming and stockraising successfully for a number of years. He is a bachelor, and having amassed a snug competency, has retired from active pursuits while still in the prime of life, making his home with his sister, Mrs. Lizzie Whitenack Reynolds, widow of Joseph Reynolds, on a farm of 148 acres located in section 23, township 18, range 8, Cass County.

Mr. Whitenack is a native of Cass County, where he was born February 9, 1868, a son of Joseph Whitenack, born in New Jersey, December 25, 1836, aud Elizabeth (Drake) Whitenack, born in the same state, March 17, 1832. The father was a farmer and stockraiser. Iu 1856 Joseph Whitenack and wife came from New Jersey to Illinois, aud they lived and farmed in Menard County about two years, moving then to Cass County, where they spent the remainder of their lives, and reared a family. He passed away in 1903, his wife having died in 1877. They had seven sons and three daughters, the first two born in Menard County, and the others in Cass. Their names are as follows: Joseph R.; John O.; George R.; Anna (Whitenack) Schrimsker, who is in Kansas; Mattie (Whitenack) Haywood, in Cass County; Charles H., in Oklahoma; Lizzie (Whitenack) Reynolds, in Cass County; William, of Iowa; Edward, of Menard Couuty; and Walter, who died in infancy.

Joseph R. Whitenack passed his childhood on the homestead place, received his early education in the country schools, and then weut to work on the farm, continuing this until the time of his retirement. He rents out his farm in section 28 in the same township, which is very productive land and highly improved. He has traveled considerably in this country and has made one trip to the western states. Mr. Whitenack is a man of very pleasant manners, agreeable and sociable to all. In politics he acts with the Democratic party.

WIDMAYER, Edward R.—Cass County has in its offices some of the most representative men of this locality. They have been placed there by a discriminating public who appreciates the fact that good blood shows and that those who come of honorable stock can be counted upou to serve the public faithfully and well. The Widmayer family is well represented, for it has in its ranks a sheriff and a deputy sheriff, father and son. The latter, Edward R. Widmayer, is a native of the county, boru here May 26, 1884, a sou of Ernest P. Widmayer.

After completing his common school course, Mr. Widmayer eutered the Virgiuia High school, and graduated therefrom with the class of 1903. Following this, he entered upon his business career, and for seven years was in the meat business. In the meanwhile his father was elected sheriff of the county, and the latter selected his sou to assist him in discharging the duties of that office. Deputy Sheriff Widmayer is not married, and makes his home with his father. The fraternal relatious of Mr. Widmayer are with the Masons. The Methodist church holds his membership, and benefits from his euergetic assistance. In politics he is a Democrat, and his work in the ranks of his party has received due appreciation. A booster for his home place, a capable official, and conscientious mau, Mr. Widmayer is justly rauked amoug the leading residents of Virginia and valued citizens of Cass County.

WIDMAYER, Ernest P. (deceased), was a veteran of the Civil war aud for many years was promiuent in Cass County and a leading factor iu politics. During the long period that he served in public office, he steadfastly discharged his duties iu a manner that kept him high in public favor. He came to Cass County from Jacksonville, Ill., in 1877, with his brother, Robert E. Widmayer, aud they engaged in the livestock business and general farming, haviug large interests iu shipping. Mr. Widmayer withdrew from the firm in April, 1912, in order to devote his entire attentiou to the duties of his office, in 1910 havjng beeu a second time elected sheriff of Cass County.

Ernest P. Widmayer was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, May 5, 1849, and died at Virginia, Ill., January 29, 1915. He was a sou of Jacob and Fredericka (Hochstetter) Widmayer, natives of Wurttemberg, Germany, who emigrated to the United States in 1854 and located at Niagara Falls, N. Y., after a voyage of fifty-four days on a sailing vessel. The father died during the same year, leaving his wife with many children: Fredericka and Caroline, both deceased; Charles, formerly sheriff of Morgan County, Ill., now deceased; Louise, deceased; William, a resident of Kane County, Ill.; Minnie, a resident of California; Gottlieb, who met a

soldier's death in the Civil war in 1863, and was buried the same day a brother was wounded at the battle of Corinth; Ernest P., now deceased, and Robert E.

Ernest P. Widmayer was five and one-half years old when he accompanied his parents to the United States, and three years later came with his mother to Kane County, Ill., settling on a farm near Elgin. There he was residing at the time of his enlistment for service in the Civil war, February 8, 1864, in Company K, Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which organization he served one and one-half years, being with General Sherman on his famous march to the sea and subsequently participating in the grand review at Washington, D. C. He was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 6, 1865, and one week later received his honorable discharge at Chicago, Ill. He was a valued member of Downing Post No. 288, Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Widmayer began his connection with official life in 1898, when he was first elected sheriff of Cass County, a position in which he served for four years. In 1902 he was elected assessor and treasurer, and held these offices for one term. Again, in 1910, he was given the shrievalty, and continued to discharge the duties of his office in a conscientious, faithful and courageous manner. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he had been a trustee for a number of years.

On January 2, 1872, Mr. Widmayer was married to Miss Matilda Ream, a native of Kane County, Ill., and daughter of Levi and Magdalena (Shoemaker) Ream, her father being a soldier in the Civil war in the same company with Mr. Widmayer, while a cousin and three uncles were also with that organization. To Mr. and Mrs. Widmayer there were born eight children: Charles Albert, deceased, who at death left a widow and three children; Cornelia, who is the wife of D. F. King, of Springfield; Clara, who died in infancy; Florence, who is the wife of Leslie Atkins, of Springfield; Lee, who is a resident of Virginia, Ill.; Edward R., who is deputy sheriff of Cass County; Rose, who is the wife of H. A. Breeden; and Walter, who is in the newspaper business and connected with the Virginia Gazette, who married Pearl McDonnell.

WIDMAYER, George Henry, assistant cashier of the Petefish-Skiles Bank, of Virginia, and township school treasurer, is one of the best examples of the younger generation of business men in Cass County. He was born at Virginia, this county, February 28, 1880, a son of Robert E. and Cornelia C. (Wiegand) Widmayer. He attended the public schools and was graduated from the Virginia High school in 1897, and during 1897-8, attended the University of Illinois. After coming back to Virginia, he was associated with his father in the livestock business, in this way becoming well known in his young manhood to his fellow citizens, and through his business success and pleasant personality secured such public confidence that he was made deputy sheriff, in December, 1898, and served as such for four years under his uncle, who was then sheriff of Cass County. In 1903, when his uncle became assessor, he was made his deputy. By this time he had still further proven his worth, and on September 1, 1903, was made bookkeeper of the Petefish-Skiles Bank, of Virginia, thus acting until in 1906, when he was elected assistant cashier, and still holds that responsible office. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and having passed all the chairs was elected as representative to the Grand Lodge for 1914. In addition he belongs to the Red Men and the Elks of Jacksonville, and is very popular in both orders. The Church of Christ holds his religious membership, and he is a deacon in it, as well as secretary and treasurer of its official board.

On December 14, 1909, Mr. Widmayer was married to Bertha Frances Biddlecome, a daughter of Horace H. and Laura (Davis) Biddlecome. A man of more than average ability, Mr. Widmayer has made his influence felt in every situation in which he has found himself and is one of the dominant factors in the life of the busy city in which he has practically spent his life.

WIDMAYER, Robert Everhart, for a number of years the senior member of the firm of Widmayer & Bro., dealers in the best grade of draft horses, and shippers of same to the St. Louis market, is one of the progressive business men of Virginia and also a farmer of some note, farming 160 acres of land in Cass County. He was born in Germany, August 29, 1853, a son of Jacob and Frederica (Hochstetter) Widmayer. The family set sail for America in February, 1854, in an old fashioned sailing vessel, and were ten weeks on the ocean. Upon their arrival in the new land, they went to Niagara Falls, and there the father died. Later on the family went to Kane County, Ill., where they resided until Robert E. was thirteen years old.

Robert E. Widmayer then left home and going to Jacksonville, the same state, spent four years there in the meat business. Following that he went to Merced County, Cal., and in working at his trade of butchering there he gained much valuable experience which he has since put to practical application. After four years of this kind of work, he returned to Jacksonville, Ill., and in the spring of 1877, embarked in a meat business in partnership with his brother Ernest, the firm packing pork, and feeding and shipping cattle at Virginia, Ill. In conjunction with their live stock business, they opened and conducted their meat market on the corner opposite the square, where they were located for over thirty-five years. At one time their trade was so heavy that the C. P. & St. Louis Railroad gave them a train of twenty-four cars from Virginia to Chicago, which were filled with cattle of their own feeding. At another time the firm sold a Peoria man nine cars of live

stock. They were the heaviest shippers of cattle from their locality. During the past twenty years, they have shipped many head of cattle and for several years handled from 2,000 to 3,000 feeders and stockers, and Robert E. Widmayer had this end of the business in charge. At present he is by himself and deals in cattle and hogs for the St. Louis and Chicago markets. Mr. Widmayer superintends and cultivates a fine 160-acre farm in Cass County, in connection with his stock business.

On May 7, 1879, he married Cornelia C. Wiegand, a daughter of Leopold and Sophia (Readebush) Wiegand. They had five children as follows: George; Edna, who died at the age of twenty years and six months; Alma; Harold, who died at the age of six months; and Helen. Helen resides with her parents. George is in the Petefish-Skiles Bank of Virginia. Alma is now Mrs. Albert W. Morse, and lives at Chandlerville, Ill. Mr. Widmayer belongs to the Modern Woodmen and the Maccabees. The family belong to the Christian church, in which Mrs. Widmayer is a deaconess and an active worker. Several terms has Mr. Widmayer served Virginia as alderman, and he was on the school board for three terms. He is a man of importance at Virginia, and is much interested in the progress of the city.

WILLIAMS, Thomas R.—Cass County has some very substantial farmers who are bending their energies to make this section one of the most important ones in the state from an agricultural standpoint. That they are succeeding, the prosperity of men like Thomas R. Williams, farmer and thresher, goes to prove. He was born at Bertie, N. C., June 1, 1850, a son of Williamson A. and Margaret (Thomas) Williams, the former born January 12, 1812, both being natives of North Carolina. The father was a farmer who lived in North Carolina until he came to Cass County, Ill., where he bought a farm of 120 acres and the family settled upon it.

Thomas R. Williams grew up amid rnral surroundings, and attended the schools of his district. Although he farms 600 acres of land, he makes his home at Bluff Springs, where he owns his residence. Ever since the organization of the Beardstown State Bank, Mr. Williams has been a director. For three years he served as a school director. He belongs to Bluff Springs Camp, M. W. A. No. 489, and he is a Methodist in religious faith.

In 1873 Mr. Williams was married to Elizabeth Reichert, and they had three children: Charles F., John F. and Howard L. On February 14, 1900, Mr. Williams was married in Cass County to Elizabeth Wright of Cass County. Her parents were farming people. Mr. Williams is a man who devotes himself to his business, but he enjoys his social relations and has many warm personal friends.

WILLIAMSON, Thomas S.—One of the oldest citizens of Cass County, Ill., both in age and period of residence, is Thomas S. Williamson, whose time of arrival in this section is suggestive of pioneer conditions in western Illinois, and the manner of his making the journey partook of the primitive means of travel prevailing in the early days of the country's settlement. Wonderful changes have taken place since the birth of Mr. Williamson, and stored amid the treasnres of his memory are countless recollections of scenes and events most interesting to those of later generations who have profited through the results of his experience. The birth of Thomas S. Williamson took place in Oldham, England, November 15, 1819, where he received mental training in the district schools in boyhood days, and his parents were James and Sarah (Smith) Williamson.

On October 3, 1842, Mr. Williamson was united in marriage with Mary Needham, a daughter of John and Rebecca Needham, and they set sail for the United States on November 10, 1842, and after spending six weeks on their passage across the ocean, they landed at New Orleans, La., whence they journeyed by boat to St. Louis, Mo. From that point they traveled by stage to Jacksonville, Ill., and on January 1, 1843, reached Virginia, Cass County, Ill. During the next March Mr. Williamson returned to Jacksonville, where he was employed for seven years at whatever kind of work he could secure, after which he followed well digging one year. In Jannary, 1851, he moved on a farm which he had bought in Cass County, where he remained until April 24, 1890, when he retired from active pursuits, and established his home in Virginia. After moving to the city, he rented his 375 acre farm, fnlly improved as the result of his labors for many years. Mrs. Williamson, his faithful companion during this long period of travel and toil, passed away Augnst 28, 1909. Their children are as follows: Sarah, who lives with her father; Elizabeth (Mrs. John Hamilton), a widow, whose home is in Virginia; John, who lives in Cass County; Mary (Mrs. Marion Rose), a widow, living with her father; James, of Rockford, Mich.; and Emma, who is also one of the home group.

In politics Mr. Williamson has been long identified with the Republican party, though never seeking office. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has been a trustee for many years. Mr. Williamson is one of the most estimable of the snrviving characters of a former generation, and a man whose high character and honorable record command the highest respect.

WILSON, John Newton (deceased).—For many years John Newton Wilson was a dominant factor in the life of Virginia, and his memory is still cherished by his former associates who remember his many excellent qualities and business ability. He was born at Newark, Ohio, June 1, 1832, a son of George and Jane Bnchanan (Moore) Wilson.

Mr. Wilson was a descendant of David Wilson of Scotland, who, at the time of the persecution of the Covenanters, left his home and

took his family to the north of Ireland. William Wilson, grandson of David Wilson, was the founder of the family in this country. He came to America about 1744, settling in the colony of Virginia.

Archibald Wilson, grandfather of John Newton Wilson, served in the Revolutionary war, first as a lieutenant, afterward as a captain. His company was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, 1781.

In 1842, with their eight children, George Wilson and wife came to Cass County, Ill., when their son, John N., was about ten years old, and located two miles west of Virginia, on a farm which the father purchased. On that farm John N. Wilson grew to manhood, attending the early schools and the college at Virginia, which stood on the present site of the high school. Remaining in town after completing his education, at first he was a clerk in a drug store, and later became assistant postmaster, and still later was appointed postmaster and held that office for eighteen years, being succeeded by Charles I. Haskill, now of Virginia. In politics he was a strong Republican. Close confinement impaired his health, and in order to keep out of doors, he bought a horse and began selling cattle on commission for others. His efforts were in vain, however, for in 1900, he was taken seriously ill, and after a long sickness he died January 22, 1901.

On September 9, 1858, John N. Wilson was married to Rachel Berry, a daughter of Thomas and America (Morrison) Berry, and they had three daughters, namely: Kate, who is a resident of Virginia, is assistant cashier of the Centennial National Bank; Jessie, who is Mrs. Edwin Beggs, of Ashland; and Ella, who died in infancy. Mrs. Wilson was born April 27, 1837, and died October 30, 1872. Mr. Wilson was married (second) to Mary Walker, a daughter of Solomon Walker, and she died a few months later. The third wife of Mr. Wilson was Lydia Hoyt Ainsworth, whom he married February 5, 1878. She died February 28, 1893.

WING, Egbert, for many years was one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of Chandlerville, Cass County, Ill. His busy and useful life came to an end October 30, 1892. He was a native of New York state, where his birth took place February 8, 1832, and was a son of James and Rachael (Davis) Wing, also of that state, who came to Illinois in 1837. The parents traveled with their family across the country, by river to Beardstown, whence they proceeded to Chandlerville, and bought land a mile and a half west of the town, where the father carried on farming until his death.

Egbert Wing in boyhood attended the subscription school taught by Peter Richard, and stayed with his parents until his marriage, in August, 1854. At that time he was wedded to Eliza Ann Davis, born in Morgan County, Ill., September 29, 1835. She is a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Phelps) Davis, natives, respectively, of Virginia and Kentucky. They had the following children, namely: Virginius, born June 22, 1855, died July 3, 1865; Larcena (Mrs. Kohler), a widow, of Peoria, Ill., born January 16, 1859; Elizabeth (Mrs. J. W. Milstead), born May 6, 1862, living in Cass County; Samuel, born August 23, 1864, who lives with his mother; Melinda, born December 29, 1867 (Mrs. George Edwin Milstead), living on the home farm; Judson E., born March 23, 1870, died November 6, 1875; and Eliza Cordelia, born April 11, 1874 (Mrs. Charles Eddings), also of Cass County.

After his marriage Mr. Wing bought a farm southwest of Chandlerville, on which he lived until 1884. Then he sold it and purchased 120 acres six miles east of Chandlerville. His widow, a most estimable lady, who is surrounded by a wide circle of friends, remained on the farm until July, 1910, when she moved to Chandlerville, renting the place to her son-in-law, Edward Milstead. She is a member of the Baptist church.

Samuel Wing always lived with his mother, and farmed the place after his father's death for many years. In 1894 he bought an eighty-acre farm east of his mother's property, which he now rents. In youth he attended the district and high schools of Chandlerville. In politics he is a Democrat. He has served as assessor of township 19, ranges 8, 9 and 10, since 1910, and he assessed township 18, range 9 from 1902 until 1908. Fraternally Samuel Wing is affiliated with the M. W. A., Pecan Camp No. 530. His father, Egbert Wing, who was also a Democrat in politics, held the office of school director. The various members of the Wing family are highly esteemed wherever their acquaintance extends.

WINKLE, Albert C.—The demand for first class automobile service is constantly increasing, and there are a number of well equipped garages to be found throughout Illinois where experts are to be found and supplies secured. Among the leading concerns doing business along this line in Cass County, none stand higher than that operated under the firm name of Beard & Winkle, at Virginia, owners of a garage and dealers in automobile supplies.

Albert C. Winkle, the junior member of the firm, was born at Springfield, Mo., August 26, 1888, a son of Ferdinand and Anna (Walkenhorf) Winkle. The father is in the meat business. Mr. Winkle was educated in the public schools of Guthrie, Okla., and became traveling buyer for J. R. Johnston, a hide, fur and wool dealer of Wichita, Kas., continuing with him for four years. In 1910 he went to St. Louis, Mo., and worked for the Overland Sales Company for six months, then went with the Pope Hartford garage and spent another six months. His next connection was with the Yonark Brothers garage, but after six months with this concern, in 1912, he came to Virginia, and in 1914, formed a partnership with William W. Beard, for the purpose of operating the Virginia garage. Mr.

Winkle had an experience of two years on a ranch in Oklahoma. He is a man of broad ideas, in politics a Democrat, and fraternally belongs to the Odd Fellows and the auxiliary order of the Rebekah. He is a member of the German Lutheran church.

William W. Beard, the senior member of the firm, was born in Cass County, Ill., September 16, 1862, a son of John C. and Mary A. (Batis) Beard, natives of the state of Virginia, who came to Cass County, Ill., in 1856. They were farming people, and both are now deceased. William W. Beard was educated in the Cass County schools, and assisted his father in operating the homestead until he was eighteen years old, when he took charge of the farm for his mother. Until he was thirty-two years old, he remained at home, he and his brother, Lee, doing the farm work. After marriage he purchased what was known as the Jim Allen Davis farm near Virginia, and there resided until 1914, when he moved to the county seat and formed his present partnership. He is an Odd Fellow and a Woodman, and belongs to the Presbyterian church.

On November 28, 1894, Mr. Beard was married to Lizzie Zigelmiser, born in Cass County, and they have one son, Franklin Z., who was born November 2, 1895. He is a graduate of the Virginia High school, and is planning to prepare himself for teaching. Mr. and Mrs. Beard have reared Hattie May Etchison since she was eleven years old. She was born at Virginia, July 25, 1896, and is also preparing to be a teacher.

WITTE, Charles, who, until 1912, was extensively and successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising in township 17, range 11, Cass County, Ill., but having acquired a snug competency, has abandoned active pursuits and is now living in retirement, is a native of Westphalia, Germany. He was born in that province May 8, 1855, a son of Fred and Louisa (Hamburg) Witte, who lived and died in the fatherland. In 1874 Mr. Witte, after acquiring a common school education in the German public schools, left the old country and came to the United States, journeying by way of New York to Beardstown, Ill., and then worked seven years on farms in the Sangamon river valley, and afterward started farming for himself, continning seven years more. Then he bought two farms, one of 240 acres and one of 160 acres in township 17, range 11, and erected all the necessary buildings, and has made all improvements up-to-date. He has done what tiling was needed, and built the fences required. He continued his farming operations successfully until 1912, raising a good deal of grain and breeding a considerable amount of stock from year to year. At that period he withdrew from active labors, and rented the farms to his sons.

On April 7, 1883, Mr. Witte was united in marriage with Minnie Miller, born in Meredosia, Ill., a daughter of Frederick Miller, both her father and mother being natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Witte had children as follows: Louis, on one of his father's farms, Bertha (Mrs. Edward Natemeyer), of Beardstown, Ill., and Edward, Edith, Albert and Anna, all of whom are at home. The family are members of the German Lutheran church. In politics Mr. Witte acts with the Republican party. He is looked upon as a model citizen, and is highly respected by all who know him.

WRIGHT, Andrew.—To successfully carry on any line of business requires natural ability and persistent effort and perhaps the reason so many of the Cass County farmers are prosperous is because they possess just these qualities. One of them, who, in the days when he was an active farmer, made his name known among the progressive agriculturalists of this region, is Andrew Wright of township 17, range 9. He was born near Belfast, Ireland, August 21, 1843, a son of James and Bertha Ann (McConkey) Wright, both of whom died in Ireland.

Andrew Wright attended the common schools of his native place. In 1865 he came to the United States, landing at Philadelphia, where he remained for four years, during that time being engaged as a teamster. He then came to Morgan County, Ill., and lived at Alexander for nine years, carrying on agricultural operations, and following this came to Cass County, renting the farm he now owns. After seven years he bought it, the property comprising 205 acres, all of which he has improved. On this he carried on stock raising and general farming until his retirement in 1910. Since then his son, Joseph A. Wright, has conducted the homestead.

While living at Alexander, Ill., Mr. Wright married Sarah Baxter, born near Belfast, Ireland, where her parents died. She came to Morgan County in 1868, accompanying her brother Henry Baxter. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have had the following children: James W., who is of Vincennes, Ind.; Leonard, who is of Philadelphia, Ill.; Thomas H. and Joseph A., both of whom are at home; Nathaniel, who is of Cass County; and Mamie, who is Mrs. Jesse McNiel of Philadelphia, Ill. Mr. Wright is a Presbyterian. In politics he is a Republican, and served many years as district road commissioner and as school director, discharging the duties of these offices competently and conscientiously.

WRIGHT, Loren Weir, who is extensively engaged in farming and stockraising in Cass County, resides on section 30, township 18, range 8, and is one of the representative men of his locality. He was born in Cass County, December 8, 1882, a son of John Solomon and Anna Norvella (Carver) Wright, the former born May 2, 1852, and the latter June 29, 1862, both natives of Cass County. They were married by Rev. James Garner. Mrs. Wright was a daughter of Fletcher and Sarah (Howard) Carver, both now deceased, the latter having died December

8, 1904, and the former, July 8, 1914, both being buried in the Garner cemetery. The father of Loren Weir Wright was a very thrifty man and was well known, as he bought stock all over the county, and in all his transactions gained the name of being very honest and upright in his dealings. He began his stock operations with no capital but his industry, but when he died, January 13, 1905, he left an estate of 234 acres of land, in addition to stock, one-half of his possessions going to his son and the other half to his widow. His burial was in the Garner cemetery.

Loren Weir Wright attended the country schools and the Virginia High school, following which, the Jacksonville schools, and then went to a college at Springfield, Mo. During all this period he worked in a printing office in his vacations, and then adopted his present line of work for his vocation in life. In addition to his own 117 acres of land, he conducts his mother's 117 acres, and his operations therefore are upon a large scale.

On August 17, 1913, Mr. Wright was married by Rev. J. C. Betton of Arkansas, in Eureka Springs, Ark., to Arzella Josephine Gaskins, born in Arkansas, April 14, 1894, a daughter of Stephen and Molly Victoria (Hatcher) Gaskins, the former born in Indiana, June 27, 1853, and the latter in Kentucky, March 27, 1863. Mr. and Mrs. Gaskins were married in Arkansas in 1887, and still reside in that state. Mr. Wright is a very sociable young man, good-natured and genial, and he and his wife are leaders in the social circles of their locality.

WYNNE, Charles H., manager of the Goodell Ice & Fuel Company of Beardstown, and one of the leading business men of Cass County, has long been a vital force of his community. He was born at Circleville, Pickaway County, Ohio, April 21, 1874, a son of Silas H. and Sarah Jane (Clifford) Wynne, natives of Pike County, Ohio. These parents have spent their lives in Ohio and been farming people.

Charles H. Wynne attended the common schools of Mt. Sterling, Ohio, and the Ohio State University at Columbus, for two years, and then began his business career as a clerk in a hotel. For thirteen years he was engaged in this line, and then came to Beardstown to become bookkeeper for the Beardstown Stave and Lumber Company, remaining with that concern until he was made manager of his present house. His associations with the latter are of such a nature as to reflect credit upon himself and advance the interests of the concern. A Democrat he has always been active in his party both as a directing force and public official, and has served as city treasurer, being in office during 1911, 1912 and 1913, and is now alderman from his ward, having been elected in 1913 for a term of two years. For the past eight years he has been a Democratic County Central Committeeman. For five years he has been an active member of the Knights of Pythias and for eleven years has belonged to the Court of Honor. Although reared in the Methodist church, he is not a member.

On November 28, 1901, Mr. Wynne was married to Mary O'Neil, born in Schuyler County, Ill., July 4, 1880, a daughter of John O'Neil, who came from Ireland to the United States, and after first working as a laborer, became a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Wynne have one child, Mary Winifred, who was born April 27, 1903. Mr. Wynne is a very sociable gentleman, one whose many excellent qualities win him friends wherever he goes. He owns his residence and is regarded as a man of substance in his community.

YAPLE, Matt.—Since the year 1886, Matt Yaple has been identified with the banking firm of Petefish, Skiles & Company, of Virginia, and prior to this time had had ten years' experience in banking at Virginia, so that his entire career has been passed in the atmosphere of finance. He was born at Chenoa, McLean county, Ill., February 12, 1858, and is a son of Matthew W. and Julia Ann (Eador) Yaple.

It is a family tradition that the Yaples and Demonds, Dutch Protestants of the Calvinistic sect, originated in that part of Germany near the border-line of France, Alsace-Lorraine, from whence they were forced to flee because of religious persecution to Holland, coming from that country to America. Philip Henry Yaple, the only one of the name to come to this country with his family, arrived prior to the year 1750, one of his brothers having died in a dungeon during the days of the Spanish Inquisition. The name during early times was variously spelled: Japel, Jabel, Yable, Yeaple and finally Yaple in colonial times in this country, although the spelling of the original name was Japel, pronounced Yahple.

Philip Henry Yaple settled on the Susquehanna River, near the town of Wyoming, Pa., then little better than a wilderness, where he carried on the vocation of clock-maker until the year 1878, when, during the Revolutionary war and the Wyoming massacre, his house was burned by the Indians, perhaps assisted by the Tories. The family escaped, however, having been warned by a friendly Indian, and made their way to Virginia. As told by a negro boy, who had been left behind, the Indians took down the last large clock which had been made by Mr. Yaple, and, breaking it to pieces, used it to start the fire which destroyed the pioneer home. Later the family returned to Pennsylvania, and there Philip Henry Yaple continued to spend the remainder of his life, surviving to the remarkable age of 108 years. He was the father of Adam, Harry and Mary, by his first marriage, and by his last wife, of Jacob, Nicholas, John, Christian and Philip. Of these, Jacob Yaple was a Revolutionary soldier and the founder of Ithaca, N. Y.

Christian Yaple, son of Philip Henry, was the father of Jane Ann, Mary, Catherine, Capt. Jacob, John, Eleanor, Rachel, William, David, Henry, Christian, Jr., Cornelius and Anson.

Christian, Jr., son of Christian, was the father of Matthew W., Ira, Sarah Eliza and Emery, and of these, Matthew W. was the father of Matt Yaple of this review. The Yaple family have always been patriotic citizens of America, having fought in the Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Civil war, and five brothers fought side by side during the winning of American independence, the only record of its kind in the history of the country. The men bearing this name have also been prominent in public life, several having served in Congress, while they have always been well represented in the professions and in business and financial affairs.

Matthew W. Yaple, father of Matt Yaple, was born at West Green, Erie County, Pa., May 19, 1833, and in his youth learned the trade of carpenter. He was twenty years of age when he migrated to Illinois, and at the time of the death of his wife, in 1864, went to the West. During the past thirteen years he has been a resident of California, where he is now living, hale and hearty, at the age of eighty-three years. Mrs. Yaple was born in Cass County, Ill., January 16, 1836.

Matt Yaple was about five years old when his mother died and at that time he went to live with his guardian, J. A. Petefish, on whose farm he resided until attaining the age of thirteen years. In 1871 he moved to Virginia, and that city has continued to be his home to the present time. Mr. Yaple's education was secured in the public schools, and during his last year at the Virginia High school he was employed in the Centennial National Bank of Virginia, as bookkeeper, and remained with that institution for ten years. In the year 1886 he became a member of the private banking house of Petefish, Skiles & Company, and in 1902, when that firm incorporated under the banking laws of Illinois, he was elected cashier of the bank, a position which he has held to the present time. He bears an excellent reputation in banking circles, and is accounted an astute, conservative and far-seeing financier, whose well known personal integrity has done much to instil confidence in the people of this locality and to attract business to the institution with which he is connected. While he has not sought preferment in public life, he has always been interested in helping to advance enterprises for the welfare of the city. He is a charter member of the lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he was the first clerk, in 1888. His political belief in that of the Democratic party, while his religious affiliation is with the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Yaple was married at Virginia, Ill., May 31, 1883, to Miss Hattie L. Skiles, who was born near Virginia, March 7, 1862, a daughter of Ignatius and Mary Jane (Thompson) Skiles, the former born in Ohio, August 10, 1827, and the latter in Cass county, Ill., January 19, 1833. Mr. Skiles was an active business man, farmer and stockman, accumulated considerable property, and died in his forty-sixth year. Two sons have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Yaple: Ignatius S., born December 21, 1885, assistant cashier of the bank of Petefish, Skiles & Company; and George S., born January 8, 1890, who is secretary of the boys' division of the Young Men's Christian Association at Newark, N. J.

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